

St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



T: 4637 1500 F: 4637 1511

Email: admin@stpats.org.au

www.stpats.org.au

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.



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME [Year B]

Sunday 22 August, 2021

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18 We will serve the Lord God, because he is our God..

Responsorial Psalm: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32 This is the great mystery, it applies to Christ and the Church.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! **Your words, Lord, are spirit and life: you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!**

Gospel: John 6:60-69 Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.

Three very different Readings from the Scriptures

On this twenty-first Sunday "in Ordinary Time" this year we are offered three quite different pieces from the Scriptures. I offer a few comments on each, hopefully to enhance our embracing the messages.

The first reading consists of just a few sentences taken from the last section of the "Book of Joshua". Joshua is the anointed successor of Moses and he leads the people of Israel as they begin settling into the land of Canaan (roughly present day Israel). Like many of the "books" in both the Old and New Testaments it contains quite a number of different pieces of writing – but broadly it is the story of the Israelite people invading lands within which Abraham and his families had settled some centuries earlier. The writing describes the fall of the city of Jericho, lots of battles, quite horrific killing, the assigning of territories to the different tribes of Israel ...

All the time Joshua the leader is endeavouring to keep uppermost in their minds that they are God's people, faithfully carrying out a mission, in the midst of customs, rituals and ways of living that lack honesty, faithfulness, mercy, lives centred on the God of Abraham and Moses.

Joshua challenges his people to be faithful to God rather than serve other Gods "Turn your backs on all these other gods and pledge your loyalty to the Lord". And he sets up a large stone as a monument to remind them.

The Gospel reading offers us the final verses from the sixth chapter in John's Gospel where Jesus has been very clearly and explicitly presenting Himself as the Face of God in human words and actions and as the "Bread of Life"; the One to imitate in every way if we are to come into real never-ending life, the One whom we are invited to "feed on", whose way we are called to absorb and make our own!

Like the people to whom Joshua is speaking, many of Jesus' followers are at risk of following other gods. What He asks of us does draw a line in the sand. Please God we can open our lives, without compromise, to the faith and courage expressed by Peter.

In between these two readings is an early step in the Church's coming to embrace a new understanding of the Sacramental nature of marriage. The passage comes from St Paul's letter to the Christians in Ephesus.

As happened with so many theological, human and pastoral questions, the Church's understanding of marriage was significantly developed by the second Vatican Council.

- The language used about marriage is no longer that of a legal contract but of a covenant, sealed by "irrevocable personal commitment".
- Marriage is primarily about the spouses cooperating generously with the love of our Creating God and Saviour who through them, day by day, expands and enriches our human family.
- The sacrament that is marriage is not something added on (because for example "it" happens in a Church building) but rather an acknowledging that authentic human loving is taken up into divine loving and is ruled and enriched by the redemptive presence of Jesus and embraced by the Church community. The emphasis is on the faithful loving of each other!
- Marriage is not just a ceremony by which two people are legally bound together. It is an act of worship, an expression of faith, an opening to the power of God's loving, a profound way of honouring the God of love.
- Marriage is the entering into an intimate partnership – the embracing of the dignity and value of each person.
- Finally Christian spouses, in virtue of this Sacrament, signify, "advertise", live out and experience the mystery of the union and fruitful love which binds Christ to His Church.

Hal Ranger

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Mary Vicary, Charles Kitapindu, Brother Kevin Dwyer, Maria Ovia 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 Charles McDonald [1970], Msgr Patrick Doyle [2000].

✠ **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.

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!

ST PATRICK AND ST SAVIOUR'S RACE DAY: Please give this consideration! It contributes to our funds each two years. The event is on the 30th October at Clifford Park beginning at 4pm with entertainment, dinner and auctions. Tickets now available from St. Saviour's School Office or via direct debit. See St Patrick's website for more details. Ticket prices: \$85 single, \$160 double.

RARE AND BEAUTIFUL VARIETY SALE hosted by **The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver** on Saturday 28 August, 8am 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.

SOUNDS ORGAN-IC A Festival of Organ Music, Saturday 11 September, 10.30am St Patrick's Cathedral, 2pm St Luke's Anglican Church, 3.45pm Lifeworks Uniting Church. Flyer available at the entrance.

St Vincent's Care Services (Lourdes Home) in Spring Street is still looking for kind-hearted parishioners who may wish to contribute some time as a volunteer with our residents in the following areas: Communion Ministry; Tuesdays, Rosary Groups; Tuesdays or Wednesdays, contact Pastoral Care on 0447 720 604 or paul.howard@svha.org.au or ursula.watson@svha.org.au. Bingo on Thursdays or 1-on-1 social visits, Mon - Fri, contact Chloe on 4592 6900 or chloe.mcintosh2@svha.org.au.

A memorial service for Sr Mary O'Sullivan will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 4 Goodwood St, Saturday 4 September 10.30am.

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
Monday 23 August	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	
Tues 24 August <i>Saint Bartholomew</i>	7am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	6.30am Rosary SPC 5.30pm Choir Practice
Wed 25 August	7am Mass SPC	6pm SVdP Meeting Parish Centre
Thurs 26 August	7am Mass SPC	7.30am - 8.30am Adoration SPC
Friday 27 August <i>Saint Monica</i>	7am Mass SPC 9am Mass STM	Fr Michael away on holidays until 23 rd August. 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Sat 28 August <i>Saint Augustine</i>	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass	8am - 9am Reconciliation SPC 11am Baptism of Lachlan & Zoe Cocks 1pm Wedding of Alyce Bryans & Matthew Cassidy
Sunday 29 August	7am, 9am, 5.30pm Mass 9am Live Streaming SPC	11am Baptism of Mackenzie Baetz 4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Planned Giving: \$837; Loose: \$735; Paypoint: \$580. Kevin & Judy Lindores, Jim Harris. Thank you for your generous giving to assist the works of St. Patrick's.		