



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. Nathan Webb.
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.



Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 23 July 2023

First reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19 In the place of sin, you give repentance.

Responsorial Psalm: Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27 The spirit himself pleads for us in a way that could never be put into words.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia alleluia! Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43 Let them grow together until the harvest.

What I have learnt from being weak

Fr Noel Connolly was, and forever will be one of the better known and revered members of the Columban Missionary Society. He is a Queenslander by birth who died recently after a battle with prostate cancer.

Noel wrote this letter in February 2020 and it is offered in this weekend's newsletter to assist in our reflections on the Readings from Paul's letter to the Romans during recent and coming weekend Masses.

Fr. Noel's letter – 17 February 2020

What I'm writing here is personal but I hope not self-indulgent.

I have prostate cancer, and for the past six months or so I have been receiving chemotherapy and various forms of hormone treatment.

Most of the time my treatment has been uneventful but I have been quite weak these past two months. I do not like it not only because it is awkward but also because I do not like being weak. I am used to being strong and successful. A front rower in Rugby and in charge for many years in the Columbans. Now I cannot do many things I am used to doing, I have to slow down and I need the help of others.

I have preached many times, about how Jesus when he became man took on not only the wonderful, successful and noble aspects of being human but also our weakness, our struggles, our confusion and the things we wish to avoid in life. However, I do not think I really believed it or at least I did not fully appreciate it.

What I have learnt from being weak, is not just that I need help, but that people love me and want to help. Everywhere, from my brother Columbans, from my family and friends, from my colleagues at Catholic Mission, from the Chinese community at Eastwood and the staff at Concord Hospital. I do not think I fully appreciated the love people have for me. That is why I tried to do things on my own. Two incidents brought this home to me. Firstly, a busy colleague on the Plenary Council Facilitation Team offered to come with me to my chemotherapy treatment. I normally go alone, which is fine as 'nothing' happens. However, she said she would come, sit, and talk with me. Secondly, once I was with some former Columban lay missionaries and clearly needed help but was trying to do something for myself, they said to me something I have thought about ever since, 'Noel, let us love you'.

To be weak is something that will come to all of us especially as we age. I often think of a conversation I once had over a whiskey with an elderly Columban, he said to me 'Noel, old age is not for the faint-hearted'. Although I am only 75 and still working, I now know that is very true.

We need to be humble and confident enough to let people love us. We need to trust in God when we are weak, because being weak is also part of being human, part of the Incarnation, part of being like Jesus. We are not only like God when we are strong and loving others. It is a beautiful thing to love. It is perhaps an even more gracious and beautiful thing to be loved. Then we are releasing the lover in others.

I am sure Noel would not object to our sharing his experience through this Newsletter.

Hal Ranger



✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Barry Gilbert, Margaret 'Maria' Donaldson. May perpetual light shine upon them.

✠ **We hold in our hearts the memories of those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Val Murphy, Patrick Seymour, Joan Norris, Danny Byrnes, Fr Robert Flynn [1980], Msgr John Bennett [1999], Fr Thomas Keegan [2020], Bishop Basil Roper [1964].

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially:** Freddy Nield, Kathleen O'Rourke, Bev Smith, Christopher Blackford, Bob O'Sullivan, Blake Cusato, Greg Coddington, Stanley Poon, Jamal Abraham, Pam Cavalachini, Madelaine Morris, Judy Moloney, Perlita Torrecampo, Rodolfo Umipig, Addison McEwan, Daniel Ligon, Rohitha Jayamanna, Ray Frelek, Madeline Gray, Maria Brown, Greta Berge, Christine [Faus] Barron, Matt Vlietstra, Dr Peter Reiter, Elijah Rolls, Hayden Smith, Rita Blacker, Kate Gibbs, Tina Hobson, Braxton Rayner, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Kathy Allan, Andrew Supple, Hannah Marasigan, Stephanie Shine, Mary-Ann Hine, Patricia McCracken, Reggie James, Teresita Pamulaklakin.

St Patrick's Conference of St Vincent de Paul is holding our annual winter appeal. Donation envelopes are on the table at the Neil Street entrance and may be left in the poor box. Funds raised will be used to purchase warm clothing. Thank you for your continued support.

MINISTRIES AT MASS: All Christians are called to share in the priesthood of Christ. **By virtue of our baptism**, we all have the responsibility to share the gifts we have received. One way to do so is to assist the parish community by joining a Ministry. We would be very grateful if you would consider if you are called to such at this time. There is a need for **Readers** to proclaim the scriptures and for **Communion Ministers** to assist with distribution of Holy Communion during weekend Masses. To enquire, please contact the parish office on 4637 1500, or email admin@stpats.org.au Training, both initial and ongoing, will be given for these ministries.

PRAYER CARDS AND BOOKLETS from Bishop Ken's solemn reception are available on the information table near the side door.

Welcome Fr. Brian Redondo

After consultation with Bishop Ken and the Personnel Board of the Diocese, Bishop Robert appointed Fr. Brian Redondo as Assistant Priest to St Patrick's Cathedral from Monday, 24th July.

You may remember Fr. Brian was ordained at St Patrick's Cathedral, with Fr. Nathan on the 25th June, 2022.

Previous to coming to St Pat's, Fr. Brian has been responsible for the parishes of Clifton-Allora.

I have no doubt you will make Fr. Brian welcome and walk with him as he gets to know the workings of the Cathedral.
God Bless, and welcome Fr. Brian, from Fr. Michael and Fr. Nathan, and all at St. Patrick's.



Sunday 23 July [SPC - St Patrick's] [STM - St Thomas More's]	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Monday 24 July	9am Mass STM 5.30pm Mass SPC	9.00am St. Saviour's Primary School Mass for the beginning of Education week. 9.30am Rosary Making in Cathedral Board Room
Tuesday 25 July <i>Saint James</i>	9am Mass SPC 5.30pm Mass STM	5.30pm Choir practice
Wednesday 26 July <i>Saints Joachim and Anne</i>	7am Mass SPC	5.00pm Grounds Committee in the Presbytery 7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Thursday 27 July	7am Mass SPC	7.30am - 8.30am Adoration at SPC
Friday 28 July	7am Mass SPC 9.30am Mass STM	7.15pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre
Saturday 29 July <i>Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus</i>	7am Mass SPC 6pm Mass SPC	6.30am Rosary at SPC 8am - 9am Reconciliation 11am Baptism of Isla Jo-Anne Blackwell
Sunday 30 July	7am, 9am, 5.30pm. Live Stream 9am	4.30pm Bingo in the Cathedral Centre

Planned Giving: Thank you for your generous donations. Loose \$1825 Planned Giving \$866 Donation Point \$600 Money Counters this weekend: Pat Power with Leo and Maureen McMahon.
Money Counters next weekend: Sam and Fina Ginardi, Wendy Heelan.

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.