



# St Patrick's Cathedral Newsletter



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

Administrator/Priest Director STM: Fr Michael O'Brien  
Associate Pastors: Fr. Hal Ranger and Fr. Nandana Saparamadu

*We acknowledge and respect the Traditional Owners of this place, the Jarowair and Giabal peoples.*

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – Year C – Saturday 23 March/Sunday 24 March 2019

- First Reading:** Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15 – *This is what you must say to the children of Israel: I Am has sent me to you.*
- Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord is kind and merciful. [Psalm 102]
- Second Reading:** 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 – *All this happened to the people of Moses in the desert was written for our benefit.*
- Gospel Acclamation:** Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ! Repent, says the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
- Gospel:** Luke 13:1-9 – *Unless you repent you will all perish as they did.*

In the passage from Luke's Gospel to which we will listen this weekend, Jesus invites us, as he invited his listeners long ago, to look at the fig tree. [Just in passing I'm surprised to find a fig tree in a vineyard, but the parable is just as valid for a fig tree or an orange tree or a mulberry tree!] The lesson is surely about God's patience in contrast to our impatience; God's willingness to offer a second chance and a third chance. God keeps offering us another chance: a foolishly generous way of handling our selfishness and sinfulness. There'll be more about that in the homilies this weekend I'm sure!

I want to invite some reflection on the two news items that were being discussed around the streets, family tables, coffee shops and bars in Israel at the time Luke is describing. Firstly people were talking about a group of feisty Galileans who had been violently killed while they were offering their religious sacrifices; the second news item was about an accident in which eighteen people were killed when a tower collapsed in Siloam. Very much the kind of tragic events that feature all too frequently on our news screens and headlines!

**Evidently a common explanation being offered and talked about in public was that God was punishing people through these events for their sinfulness.**

Throughout history this image of God is frequently put forward. To this day a lot of disasters are referred to, even in the technical language of insurance policies and claims, as "Acts of God"! I believe they are all "Acts of God" – the big challenge is to uncover/discover what God is saying to us through this drought/flood/cyclone... **and so on!**

We punish others; sometimes other people punish us; but God is NOT a punisher!

The major message of Jesus is that God is Father/Mother who LOVES us unconditionally as a loved daughter or son. Our relationship is NOT as between a judge and a disobedient servant, NOT as between a manager and an employee, NOT as a king whose subjects are on trial, NOT as "bit" players in a drama which God controls. We are beloved creatures of a faithful, loving parent, invited into an exciting circle of loving, giving and receiving life, gifted with freedom to play our part and assured of a second, third, fourth opportunity whenever we fail.

There are no simple answers to the big or personal challenges in life, but I suggest the key to finding answers is LISTENING to God [as Jesus does so often "on the mountain" or "in a quiet place"] rather than asking God to do what we think should happen. Prayer is not about us telling God what we think God should be doing, prayer, I want to suggest, is about LISTENING, PONDERING, DISCERNING what part God is inviting us to play in the enfolding of God's DREAM [the Kingdom of God] and endlessly calling us to try again.

**Lord – teach us that way of praying!**

*Fr Hal*

✠ **We remember in our prayers all those who have died recently:** Shirley Fels, Jonah Cain, Maxwell Mulhall, Geoffrey James. *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:** Paula Missen, Elvira Georsua, Paul Saccasan, Fr Patrick Brady.

✠ **For all those who are ill in our community, especially** Robyn Montgomery, Michael Cuskelly, John Smith, Pat Brosnan, Vince Stephens, Bev Boundy, Roslyn Pardon [nee Kearney], Joanne Essey [Sydney], Mr Rene Perla, Braxton Rayner, Kate Gibbs, Max Shearer, Saturnino Bustamante, Hannah Marie Marasigan, Robert Badger, Stephanie Shine, Susie Rolls, Andrew Supple (Robina), Mary-Ann Hine, Antony Dunbarr, Kathy Allan, John Morgan, Patricia McCracken, Matthew Dwyer, Reggie James, Morgan O'Brien, Teresita Pamulaklakin.

✠ **For all those recently baptised:** **Patrick Roberts** son of Grant and Annie. *May the gift of the Holy Spirit grow throughout their lives.*

**Reconciliation:** 1<sup>st</sup> Rite available every Saturday, 9.00am – 10.00am at St Patrick's Cathedral.

**Special Event:** We welcome **His Excellency Most Rev Adolfo Tito Yllana, Apostolic Nuncio**, who will celebrate Eucharist with us on 31<sup>st</sup> March at 9am, followed by morning tea.

**Holy Hour at the Cathedral:** You are invited to spend an hour in quiet reflection each Wednesday of Lent between 5.00pm and 6.00pm in the Cathedral.

**Lenten Banners:** each week a new banner will be placed high in the Cathedral to assist with our Lenten journey.

**Project Compassion:** The Project Compassion envelopes are available. Please consider giving to Project Compassion each week as part of your Lenten journey. The **theme** for **Project Compassion 2019** is based around hope and giving Lent 100% in the name of hope. Hope is one of the three pillars of Christian virtue. The other two being faith and charity. It is a powerful force for good and often helps to transform lives.

The **Annual Race Mass** will be held at Clifford Park Race Course on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 at 6.30pm. Light refreshment and Phantom race call to follow the Mass. Everyone welcome!

**Invitation for singers and musicians** to join St Patrick's Choir or play keyboard at Masses. Instructions will be given and choir practice is Monday from 5.30-7pm. Contact Vicky- 0428781209 or Parish Office 4637 1500.

**URGENT: EASTER ROSTERS: Altar Assistants, Communion Ministers, Readers, Welcomers, Musicians and Singers** are invited to be part of the liturgies during Holy Week and Easter. There are folders with ministry forms in the Sacristy and on the tables in the eastern transept and front of the Cathedral. **If you are available please put your name on one of the forms this weekend.** Readers must be available to attend a practice session beforehand!

**Maronite Rite Mass:** Fr Fadi Salame from Brisbane will celebrate Mass in the Maronite Rite at St Anthony's Church, Memory Street, Harristown on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00am. A special invitation is extended to any families from Iraq or Syria to attend. Other parishioners are welcome to attend this Mass. A light finger food lunch will be held in Parish Community Centre after Mass. Please bring a plate of food to share for **lunch. Please contact Gabrielle Saide on 4632 4778 (a.h.) if you require transport.**

**St Saviour's College Open Evening** Tuesday 21 May 3.00pm - 6.00pm. All families are welcome to attend. For more details please phone the College on 4637 1600 or visit our website: [www.ssctwb.catholic.edu.au](http://www.ssctwb.catholic.edu.au)

<b>Sunday 24 March</b>	7.00am Mass 9.00am Mass 5.30pm Mass	<b>10.15am Sacramental Preparation Group – Cathedral Centre</b> 11am Baptism of William Vietherer [HR] 4.30pm: Bingo – Cathedral Centre
<b>Monday 25 March</b>	<b>7.00am SPC</b> 9.00am Mass at STM	<b>The Annunciation of the Lord</b> 9.30am Staff meeting 1.30pm Funeral Prayers for Maxwell Mulhall 5.30-7pm Choir Practice
<b>Tuesday 26 March</b>	7am Mass 5.30pm Mass STM	11am Funeral Ministry meeting 12.15pm SPC Indoor Bowls
<b>Wednesday 27 March</b>	7.00am Mass	<b>9am – 3pm Diocesan In-service on Synodality</b> 9.30am St Patrick's Prayer Group in Boardroom 5pm-6pm Holy Hour 7:15pm: Bingo – Cathedral Centre
<b>Thursday 28 March</b>	7.00am Mass	6pm SVdP meeting – Parish Centre
<b>Friday 29 March</b>	7.00am Mass 9am Mass STM	<b>9.30am Ladies Friendship Group in Parish Centre</b> TCSO Office Opening by Nuncio <b>6pm Celebration of First Reconciliation</b> 7:15pm: Bingo – Cathedral Centre
<b>Saturday 30 March</b>	7.00am Mass 6.00pm Vigil	9.00am – 10.00am First Rite of Reconciliation <b>10am Celebration of First Reconciliation</b> 11.30am Baptism of Mateo and River Obi [HR]
<b>Sunday 31 March</b>	7.00am Mass 9.00am Mass 5.30pm Mass	<b>Welcome to His Excellency Most Rev Adolfo Tito Yllana, Apostolic Nuncio [9am]</b> 11am Baptism of Hendrix Jarvis and Georgia Macdonald [FM] 4.30pm: Bingo – Cathedral Centre
St Patrick's weekly collection: Planned Giving \$1128.00; Loose Collection \$2463.10		