Dear Friends,

When travelling interstate on any of the major highways in Australia, one of the most welcoming signs is the roadside rest area. After many hours of driving these rest areas can be truly a great comfort. It gives the weary driver an opportunity to stretch the legs, go for a short walk, have a snack or a cup of coffee or tea, visit the comfort facilities, or just simply have a breather. It breaks up the journey and allows the driver to take up the next stretch of the road a little more rested and alert. Without these roadside facilities the danger would be to continue on with the driving, unaware that you may be becoming a little too tired and be less concentrating on the road and traffic and therefore more at risk of either running off the road or causing an accident. Roadside rest areas are a reminder that we need to take a break and refresh ourselves for the journey ahead and so arrive safely at our destination.

Today’s Gospel reading (11:25-30), becomes for us our spiritual roadside rest area. Jesus is offering us today an invitation to pull up stumps for a while and to rest in his presence, so that we may be able to more fully endure the demands of being his disciple. In the Gospel passage of the preceding two weeks we learnt of the harsh demands of being a follower of Jesus [Matthew 10:26-33; 10:37-42]. We were challenged to put aside our fear and to recognise the measure of love and commitment that Jesus is asking of us in living out the values of the Kingdom. Today’s words from Jesus come as welcoming sign on the road of discipleship: ‘Come to me all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest’ (v. 28). When we consider this statement, it is addressed to all of us. Who of us has not been overcome with the elements of life, who of us has not been exhausted with life’s trials? Coming to Jesus offers us the opportunity to ‘take up his yoke and to learn from him’. In all this Jesus is not telling us that he will remove the trials and tribulations of life. That would be unrealistic. He is telling us that he will assist us in the living out these experiences, by shouldering the burden with us. It is an invitation to take a short break and to be reinvigorated by simply remaining with Jesus and learning from his humility and meekness of heart.

This invitation also contains an exclamation by Jesus (v 25-26) and a revelation concerning the intimate relationship between Jesus and his God (v. 27). Jesus is telling us that if we wish to appreciate the elements of his teaching, so that we can be transformed by it, then we need to be as receptive as a young child is to his or her parents. As a child is open and trusting in the ways of its parents, so too we need to be regarding our relationship with God. In making this statement, Jesus is speaking about his own experience: just as the ‘clever and learned’ (the Scribes and Pharisees) disregarded his teaching, the ‘mere children’ (tax collectors and sinners) accepted his words (v 25-26). It tells us about the surprising ways of God. For anyone to be able to appreciate the treasures of the Kingdom, they need to shed themselves of their personal agenda in order to be filled with the message of God’s Good News.

In the coming week, perhaps we can spend some time naming some of these elements of life that allow us to feel laboured and overburdened, and present them to Jesus, so that he can, through his presence and compassion, assist us in dealing with them? The roadside rest areas are advertised with signs that read: ‘Stop, Revive, Survive’. Am I prepared to cease my activity for a short time and be revived by Jesus in order to be strengthened to live out his message in the world?

This will be my final article for the Parish Bulletin. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your friendship, commitment and presence within the Parish. May the Lord continue to bless you all and may you truly find peace in His presence.
Reconciliation
We are pleased to announce Reconciliation will be held on Monday - Friday 11.15am-12.20pm and on Saturday 8.30am and 5.00pm until further notice.
Please note that strict social distancing rules will be applied.
Confessions are now taking place back in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

Formation
Time to mark your diary for our next Formation session.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic: The Christian and Money</th>
<th>Speaker: Mili Lee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Date: Friday July 24</td>
<td>Time: 7.30pm-9.00pm</td>
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Sacraments of Initiation - Preparation for Eucharist 2020
With the easing of the COVID-19 restrictions the Sacraments of Initiation team has now formulated a plan for return to sessions in preparation for the celebration of First Eucharist 2020. We are very pleased to inform you that preparation sessions for Eucharist for children 7 years or older who completed Reconciliation in 2019 will recommence in Term 3 2020 and that the celebration of First Eucharist is now planned for early August.

The calendar of sessions of preparation is as follows:

- **Eucharist 1 & 2 (combined):** Tuesday 21st July 2020, 7:30 pm - Parent Session
- **Eucharist 3:** Saturday 1st August 2020, 4:30 pm - Parent and Children Session
- **Practice for First Eucharist:** Saturday 8th August 2020, 4pm - Parent and Children Session
- **First Eucharist Ceremony:** Sunday 9th August 2020 (two afternoon ceremonies - times to be confirmed)

*Please keep in mind that all sessions are mandatory.*

For any other information regarding the Sacramental Process for Children already Baptised please contact Meg Gale: sacrament@stpatscathedral.com.au

Please Pray For...
- **Sick:** Danny Dingle, Sharon Web (Patti M’s daughter), Michael Gittany.
- **Rec Dec:** Vittoria Teuma (Pauline Pace’s mother), Louise Nikolakopoulos

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Farewell for Fr Bob
Sunday 5 July (after 11am Mass)
*(Fr Bob’s last Parish Mass at St Pat’s)*

Cloister Function Room and Cloister

BBQ lunch supplied

e: enquiry@stpatscathedral.com.au ph: 8839 8400 or sign sheet at church.
If you would like to contribute towards a gift, a donation box is available where you sign in for church.
Covid-19 Restrictions - Seating in the Cathedral
From July 1 there will be no cap for worshippers attending church. However, the 4sq/m rule will still apply. The pews have been marked with tape to guide you. We have also marked pews that seating is not allowed (to help maintain distancing). Please ensure upon entering church to make use of the sanitiser and sign on. Families may sit together.

Prayer Groups including Meditation, Novena to Mary Full of Grace, Formation, First Friday Devotions and Cenacle have all made a return. If you would like to attend any of these groups, please contact the office.

Supporting St Pat’s - Leaving Collection
Upon leaving church, we will have wardens at exit points for you to give your Planned Giving envelopes or donation. If you would rather use the Tap ‘n’ Go simply tap your debit/credit card once to make a $5 donation. If you would like to donate more, tap again. No receipts are given at this point. Our heartfelt thanks for your continued support.

Planned Giving Envelopes for 2020/2021
These are now available for pick up. They are located at Murphy House (St Patrick’s Gift Shop). If you plan to pick up your envelopes outside of opening times, please contact the office and we will help you with other arrangements.

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY CELEBRATION LIVESTREAMED FROM ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHEDRAL 11.30AM 5 JULY.
DETAILS AT WWW.NATSICC.ORG.AU 2020 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sunday Resources
All of NATSICC’s resources are also available here:
For people unable to attend mass, a live stream of a National mass is available at 11.30am EST on Sunday for viewing from www.natsicc.org.au and youtube https://www.youtube.com/user/TheNATSICC

The Catholic Toolbox, Radio Show and Podcast
Host: George Manassa & Akita Sanchez
Time: Tuesdays 8pm-9pm
Network: 1701AM and cradio.org.au
Topic: Black Lives Matter
Date: Tuesday 7 July

St Patrick’s Gift Shop
Mobile 0419 153 195

The Gift Shop is now open to a maximum of three customers. Only Credit card and eftpos facilities will be accepted for the time being.

Feel free to come in and have a browse around. We stock Religious goods, Ethical products, Sacramental gifts and many more items to celebrate a time in your life or someone special.

Please note varied shop days/hours till further notice.
OPEN: Tuesday to Friday 10am – 2pm & Sunday 10am –1pm.
CLOSED: Mondays and Saturdays.