



# ST PATRICK'S

24 Tobruk Street, Beenleigh, Qld 4207



*Dear Parishioners and Visitors,*

*As we celebrate the joy and hope of Christmas, I find myself filled with both gratitude and a touch of sadness. This will be my final Christmas with you, and while it is difficult to say goodbye, I leave with a heart overflowing with cherished memories and immense appreciation for all that we have shared.*

*The story of Christmas reminds us that God chose to dwell among us, bringing peace, love, and light into a weary world. In my time with this parish, I have experienced that same light shining through your warmth, kindness, and faith. Whether through our worship together, shared moments in the sacraments, or the simple acts of love and care I've witnessed in our community, you have truly embodied the spirit of Christ.*

*As I reflect on my ministry here, I feel humbled and uplifted by the thoughtful words many of you have shared in public and private farewells. Your expressions of gratitude and encouragement have affirmed the value of our journey together and reminded me how deeply connected we are as a parish family. These memories will remain with me as I continue my pastoral journey.*

*As I depart, I humbly ask one thing of you: to extend the same love and support you have shown me to the new priest who will soon walk with you.*

Each priest is a unique servant of God, bringing his own gifts and challenges to his ministry. It is natural to notice differences, but I urge you not to compare us. Instead, embrace his presence with open hearts, patience, and the same dedication you have shown me. The church is not built on any one individual; it is sustained by Christ and by each one of you who form this vibrant faith community.

This Christmas, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, let us also recommit ourselves to the unity and mission of our parish. Together, you can continue to make this church a place where God's love is known, where the marginalized are welcomed, and where faith is nourished.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of your lives. Thank you for your prayers, your kindness, and your trust. While I may no longer be your parish priest, know that you will always be in my prayers, and I will carry the light of this community wherever God leads me next.

May the peace and joy of Christmas fill your homes and hearts. May Christ, our Emmanuel, remain your source of strength and hope. Wishing you and your families a blessed Christmas and a grace-filled New Year.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Fr Subin Thomas MCB S



*May the God of Love and Peace  
Abide in You, Guide Your Steps  
and confirm your Heart in His  
Love, Now and Forever.*



**HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
2025**