

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 11: 28

Alleluia, alleluia! / Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened, / and I will give you rest, says the Lord. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 5: 1-12

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up the hill. There he sat down and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to speak. This is what he taught them:

'How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Happy the gentle:

they shall have the earth for their heritage;

Happy those who mourn:

they shall be comforted;

Happy those who hunger and thirst for what is right:

they shall be satisfied;

Happy the merciful:

they shall have mercy shown them;

Happy the pure in heart:

they shall see God;

Happy the peacemakers:

they shall be called sons of God;

Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right:

theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

'Happy are you when people abuse you and persecute you and speak all kinds of calumny against you on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Reflections on the Gospel



THE SAVING WORD

ALL SAINTS DAY / A

01 NOVEMBER 2020

THE BEATITUDES

The gospel of the Beatitudes is often read at funerals and weddings. In its own way, it sounds comforting and indeed it is. However, it is also very challenging—which suggests that 'Blessed' is a better rendering of the opening word in each case than 'Happy'.

Jesus is instructing his disciples concerning the kind of people they must be, not just for themselves but for the benefit of the mass of afflicted people down below the mountain, who he has just healed.

To this end, the beatitudes describe ways of living that mean putting oneself in a vulnerable situation quite contrary to the values of the world. To be 'poor in spirit,' rather than proud and dominant; to feel compassion ('mourn') because other people suffer; to have a passionate commitment ('thirst') for justice; to exercise 'mercy' rather than taking advantage of those in an inferior position; to actively promote reconciliation (as 'peacemakers'); and so forth: all these things make one vulnerable here and now, entailing much loss.

But in light of the hope for the kingdom of God, whose values the Beatitudes enshrine, disciples who adopt this way of life are already 'blessed'. Their future happiness is in the hands of an ever-faithful God.

Moreover, living in this way means that they can be 'salt' and 'light' for the world, especially for the afflicted. It is those who are prepared to live in the vulnerable way commended by Jesus who make the world a hospitable home for all humanity. This is the legacy of the 'saints' who have gone before us.

Brendan Byrne, SJ

FIRST READING

Apoc 7: 2-4, 9-14

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse.
I saw an immense crowd, beyond hope of counting, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language.

I, John, saw another angel rising where the sun rises, carrying the seal of the living God; he called in a powerful voice to the four angels whose duty was to devastate land and sea, 'Wait before you do any damage on land or at sea or to the trees, until we have put the seal on the foreheads of the servants of our God.' Then I heard how many were sealed: a hundred and forty-four thousand, out of all the tribes of Israel.

After that I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. They shouted aloud, 'Victory to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' And all the angels who were standing in a circle round the throne, surrounding the elders and the four animals, prostrated themselves before the throne, and touched the ground with their foreheads, worshipping God with these words: 'Amen. Praise and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and strength to our God for ever and ever. Amen.'

One of the elders then spoke, and asked me, 'Do you know who these people are, dressed in white robes, and where they have come from?' I answered him, 'You can tell me, my Lord.' Then he said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 23: 1-6. R. cf. v. 6

R. Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

1. The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples.
It is he who set it on the seas; on the waters he made it firm. R.



2. Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who shall stand in his holy place?
The man with clean hands and pure heart,
who desires not worthless things. R.

3. He shall receive blessings from the Lord
and reward from the God who saves him.
Such are the men who seek him,
seek the face of the God of Jacob. R.

SECOND READING

Jn 3: 1-3

A reading from the first letter of John
We shall see God as he really is.

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.
Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.
My dear people, we are already the children of God

but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;
all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.
Surely everyone who entertains this hope
must purify himself, must try to be as pure as Christ.

■ The word of the Lord.

1 Nov 2020	WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH	
Wk 31 Yr A/2	Website: https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org/	
<u>Parish Priest</u>	Fr Anthony Koppman	Presbytery 67658211
<u>Deacon</u>	Deacon Peter Harrison	Office Hours: Tues - Fri 9.30 - 11.30 am
<u>Administration:</u>	Ms Anne Bowden	westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au
<u>Sacristan</u>	Ms Di Bolitho	St Joseph's School
	Mrs Elaine Smyth	Principal Mrs Katie Hanes 67654079



WEEKEND MASSES	Vigil: Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am and 5.30 pm **72 people only in the church	CONFESIONS Sat: 4.30-5.15pm *Or by appointment
WEEKDAY MASSES	Mon: **All Souls Day 9 am Tues: **No Mass Wed: **12 noon St Charles Borromeo Thurs: 9 am Fri: 9 am Sat: **No Mass	

Entrance Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day of all the Saints
Antiphon: at whose festival the angels rejoice and praise the son of God.

May God have mercy on all those asked to be remembered in prayer:

Recently Deceased: June Foley, John Ball, Anthony Press (Bathurst), Wendy O'Toole.

Anniversaries: Ian MacPherson (30/11), Warren Doherty (6/10), Keith Blanch (8/10), Ed Clarke (12/10), Michael Lillicrap (27/10), Alma Mulherin (29/10), Bill Teo (29/10), Mary McInnes (6/11), Perce McInnes (2/12); Rod Kelly (20/1); Sheila McNamara, France Martin.

Deceased: Sr Jan Cetta rsj, Terry Smith, Barbara Scott, Peter Koch, Marie Trinder, Peter Press, Bob Edgecock, Thomas Brown, William Coulston, Andrew Tickner.

Sick: Bob Worthington, Kim Myers, Rachel MacPherson, Shirley Hobbs, Deacon Peter Harrison, Jenny Crawford, Sr Pat Bartley, Judy Cumins, Brindley Cavallaro, Maureen Harrison, Elaine White, Linda Bourke, Peggy Bussell, Margaret Doyle, Christopher Struck, Graeme Bussell, Jack & Marge Attard.

CRACKERS TAILS



THE 'BE A KID AGAIN' ATTITUDES: Give yourself a gold star for everything you do today. Dot all your i's with smiley faces. Grow a milk moustache. Smile back at the man in the moon. Read the funnies-- throw the rest of the paper away. Dunk your cookies. Open a pack of cupcakes and give one to a friend even though you wanted them both. Step carefully over sidewalk cracks. Change into some play clothes. Try to get someone to trade you a better sandwich.



ALL SAINTS DAY

COMING EVENTS

2 Nov All Souls Day, Mass at 9 am
 8 - 13 Nov Clergy Retreat - No weekday masses

*"Do not any of you get discouraged.
Be humble, patient and charitable."*



SOCIAL DISTANCING - **YOU MUST ** REGISTER TO ENTER
 ** SANITISE HANDS ENTERING AND LEAVING
 ** MARK SEATING & KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

ALL SAINTS DAY AND ALL SOULS DAY: 1st and 2nd November are special days for the Catholic Church throughout the world. All Saints Day is dedicated to the saints of the church, that is all those who have attained heaven. All Souls Day is a day we traditionally offer special prayers for the faithful departed. November mass offering envelopes will be available in the church to offer special masses during November. Please ensure you write very clearly.

CLERGY RETREAT AND CHANGES TO MASS TIMES: Due to the Clergy Retreat there will be **NO EVENING MASS (5.30 PM) AT ST. PATRICK'S NEXT SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER** and no weekday masses next week (8 - 14 Nov) including Sat. 9 am. Masses will resume from 5.30pm Sat. 14 Nov.

MISSION SUNDAY: Thank you for your generosity to this appeal. The Arrupe Centre will be able to do some wonderful work with your support. You can still donate via the Catholic Mission's website: <https://www.catholicmission.org.au/our-work/see-our-work-in-action/wmm20-cambodia-appeal>. Text message. Simply text GIVE to 0488 854 436 and follow the prompts. Telephone: 1800 257 296. Envelopes are supplied for your donations if you prefer. Thank you.

READERS ROSTER: We are in need of readers for all Masses to recommence the reading roster. A sheet is provided at the back of the Church to add your name if you are able to recommence reading on a regular basis. A greater need currently exists for Sunday 9 am. Thank you to those who have already registered.

HELP FOR MARRIAGES UNDER STRESS: The BreakThrough Online Course created by SmartLoving will enable you to identify your conflict triggers, learn strategies to de-escalate an argument and find constructive ways to re-establish connection. Restore hope for your relationship's future. Visit: www.smartloving.org/breakthrough



COVID PANDEMIC: Whilst the restrictions on numbers has been eased we are still subject to the space we have available at St Patricks. **ONLY 72 PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO ATTEND MASS AT ANY ONE TIME AT ST PATRICKS. PLEASE EMAIL THE PARISH AND LEAVE YOUR NAME, TELEPHONE NUMBER, EMAIL ADDRESS AND PREFERENCE TIME FOR MASS ATTENDANCE** (Saturday evening or Sunday). The parish phone is not always attended so please only call if you do not have email. If not registered you may still attend mass, however you MUST leave your name and contact details on the sheet upon entering and can only enter if less than 72 people have registered on the entry sheet already. **Masks are currently strongly recommended but not mandatory at the time of print.

Sat Cleaning Roster: 7/11/20 B & B Lane 14/11/20 J Cunningham and K O'Brien

First Collection WEST TAMWORTH PRESBYTERY BSB 082105 Acc 001023642
Second Collection WEST TAMWORTH CHURCH BSB 082105 Acc 001041198