

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*A prophet is despised only in his own country.*

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

04 JULY 2021

## GOD WORKS THROUGH OUR WEAKNESS

It has been said that we are now living in a post-Christian society, where the Christian values that have undergirded our social fabric are being increasingly challenged. While the impact of our multicultural and multifaith society have their part to play, it is perhaps more helpful to consider that preaching the word of God has always been a task fraught with the danger of facing misunderstanding and rejection. When Ezekiel was sent to preach the word to the people of Israel he did not suffer from the illusion that success was certain. In fact, God commissioned him knowing that the task ahead was difficult. His task was to preach the word whatever the response.

Like Ezekiel before him, Jesus faced rejection from his neighbours and his relatives. Even Jesus had to work within the room he was given and his healing ministry was limited by the disbelief he encountered. Mark points out that not even God's Son worked miracles where there was no faith to request or receive them.

Like Jesus and Ezekiel, Paul had to come to terms with rejection from those close to him. In this case the very community which he had founded was divided and there were some who rejected him and resented the ways that he exercised his spiritual leadership and authority. As a means of trying to heal the rift Paul admits, unlike his opponents, that his weakness and frailty are real and yet God has chosen to work through them.

Christopher Monaghan CP

Universalis

## FIRST READING

Ezek 2: 2-5

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.

*The people are rebellious; they shall know there will be a prophet in their midst.*

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 122. R. v. 2

R. Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy.

1. To you have I lifted up my eyes, / you who dwell in the heavens: / my eyes, like the eyes of slaves / on the hand of their lords. R.
2. Like the eyes of a servant / on the hand of her mistress, / so our eyes are on the Lord our God / till he show us mercy. R.
3. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy. / We are filled with contempt. / Indeed all too full is our soul / with the scorn of the rich, / with the proud man's disdain. R.

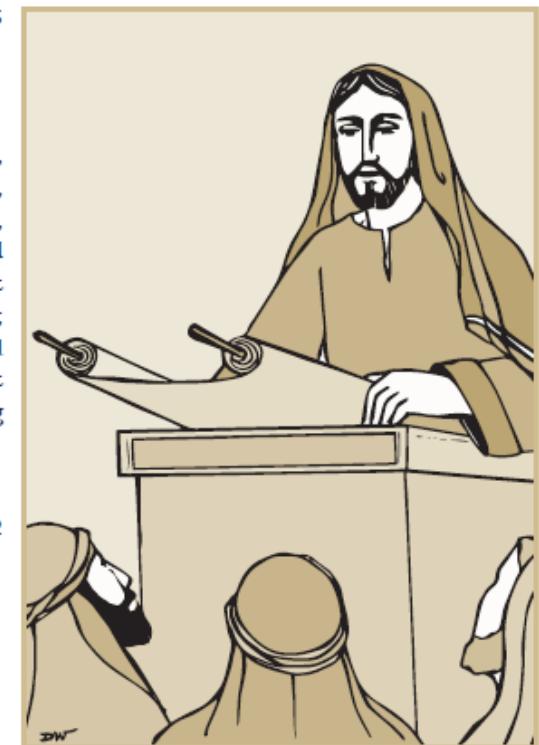
## SECOND READING

2 Cor 12: 7-10

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians.

*I will glory in my infirmities so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.*

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord



three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 4: 18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me: he sent me to bring Good News to the poor.

Alleluia!

4 July 2021  
Year B Week 14

## WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrikswesttamworthparish.org/>

Parish Priest Fr Anthony Koppman  
Parish Assoc Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.  
Administration Di Bolitho / Anne Bowden  
Sacristan Elaine Smyth  
School Principal Mrs Katie Hanes

Presbytery 67658211  
[westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au)  
Office Hrs: Tues -Wed 9.30am -11.30pm  
Parish Associate 0411703608  
St Josephs School 67654079



**WEEKEND MASSES** Vigil: Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am and 5.30pm  
Mon: \*No Mass Tues: \*No Mass  
Wed: 12pm Thur: 9am  
Fri: 9am Sat: 9am

**CONFESIONS**  
Sat: 4.30-5.15pm  
\*Or by appointment

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *Your merciful love, O God, We have received in the midst of your temple.  
Your praise, O God, like your name, Reaches the ends of the earth;  
Your right hand is filled with saving justice.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *Taste and see that the Lord is good; Blessed the man who seeks refuge in Him.*

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

Recently Deceased: Sister Francis Gabriel (rsj), Margaret Kay, Aileen Fulwood, Margaret Burgess, Bruce Pullman.

Anniversaries: John Varga (1/6), Pat Smyth (7/6), Stan Blanch (29/6).

Deceased: Sr Bede Hintz, Mary Plater, Andrew Tickner, William Coulston, Fr Peter Liu, Peggy Bussell, Tom and May Kennedy, Lawrence Hartley, Margaret Barnes, Blagyna Nikolovski. Thomas Brown.

Sick: Sophie Littlejons, Maree Southwell, Margaret Marshall, Colleen Greer, Fr Bernie Flood, Maria Mood, Kim Myers, Barbara Brennan, Monica Austin, Mimmie Bennett, Bob Worthington, Judy Cummins, Shirley Hobbs, Elaine White, Erin Hansen, Bill Press, Jenny Crawford, Sr Pat Bartley, Linda BourkeDeacon Peter Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Margaret Doyle, Christopher Struck, Graeme Bussell, Brindley Cavallaro, Jack & Marge Attard.



### PADDY'S ACCEPTANCE LETTER

Dear Sir,

I have received your acceptance for admission, and I regret to inform you that I will not be attending your university in coming years. As a senior in high school, I have applied to many other fine institutions to further my education. And, although yours ranks high among them, I'm afraid that you failed to qualify.

Elimination under my system doesn't mean that you are not qualified to educate other fine young men and women. It merely reflects the high caliber of colleges and universities competing for my acceptance. My best wishes for your future.

### COMING EVENTS

4 July Parish Morning Tea in Parish Centre 10 am  
16 July Official Opening New Facilities  
18 July Confirmation  
18 July Fr O'Brien's 60th Jubilee  
31 July Launch Online Mens Gathering



**HEAL COUNTRY!**  
4-11 JULY 2021

*"Work on with constancy and courage." (1876)*



**COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS CHANGED ON 26 JUNE 2021.**

\*PLEASE READ THE NOTICES AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE CHURCH AND FOLLOW ALL REQUESTS, INCLUDING \*\*MANDATORY MASK WEARING\*\*, \*SOCIAL DISTANCING UNDER THE 4m<sup>2</sup> RULE, \*CHECKING IN AND \*SANITISING.

**WELCOME:** Through the sacrament of baptism we welcome into our Catholic family: Victoria Vaclavik and Spencer Pineda. May they and their families receive God's special blessings.

**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER SUNDAY:** Is celebrated today 4 July. The 2021 theme is Heal Country. This is very significant as we all experience the COVID pandemic as a nation. More information is at <http://natsicc.org.au/2021-atsi-sunday.html>

**PLANNED GIVING:** Envelopes are available for collection this weekend ready for use from July. Several givers will have a number change as more parishioners have adopted the electronic payment method allowing us to reduce the number of envelopes purchased.

**CHURCH PROJECT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Anyone willing to operate the projector for the Saturday evening or Sunday evening mass, please contact the Office.

**OFFICIAL OPENING:** St Joseph's School will hold the official opening and blessing of the new facilities on Friday 16 July 21 at 10 am for a 10.30 am start. **RSVPs have now closed.**

**CONFIRMATION:** The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in St Patricks on 18 July. With Covid conditions in place and to allow for extra relations and friends of the children to attend, parishioners are asked to consider their mass attendance times and if practical attend either the Saturday or Sunday evening services. This is a request only to comply with safe distancing.

**FR ROSS O'BRIEN'S 60TH JUBILEE:** On 18 July we will be very blessed to celebrate Fr Ross O'Brien's 60th Jubilee of ordination. Mass with the Bishop and a number of concelebrating clergy will be at 12pm. Lunch in the Parish Centre will follow and parishioners are very welcome. An attendance register at the back of the church. Please record your details by **11 July** to allow for planning.

**THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S GATHERING FOR 2021** will be launched online on Saturday 31st July. The Diocese of Armidale will be holding its own Diocesan Catholic Men's Gathering as an in-person event on Saturday 16th October in Tamworth.

**DIMMING IN THE CHURH:** Replacement of the church lights is imminent and a significant cost. We have seen the improved savings made with updating of lighting in the presbytery and grounds and would like to see the same in the Church. We hope to be able to address the issue in the future .

### CHURCH COLLECTIONS:

**BSB** 082105 **1st Coll:** ACC 001023642 **2nd Coll:** ACC 001041198

\*Please make separate payments for each account.

**MONTHLY PARISH MORNING TEA:** First Sunday of every month.

### WEEK 4 ROSTER: 4/7/21

Vigil: R D Gowing G Styman  
9am Sun: R R Paull M Donaldson  
5.30pm Sun: R M and J Murray  
Counting Team S Brown; A Bowden  
Sat Cleaning 10/7 J Hutt & J Moran  
Altar Linen H Reid

### WEEK 5 ROSTER: 11/7/21

Vigil: R P Bamford R Palmer  
9am Sun: R C Monet O Monet  
5.30pm Sun: R M and J Murray  
Counting Team P Sheils ; A Bowden  
Sat Cleaning 17/7 M Vella and R Pace  
Altar Linen: J Hutt

We acknowledge that we walk upon the traditional lands of First Nations peoples. We pay our respects to them and recognise the continuing gift of their cultures to the life and spirit of Australia.

