

Alleluia, alleluia!
Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

This poor widow has put in more than all who contributed.

In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

07 NOVEMBER 2021

SELF-GIVING AND GENEROSITY

In many cultures, philanthropy and generosity can lead to a person being honoured and esteemed. The biblical world was no exception. As Sirach 31:23 observes: 'People bless the one who is liberal with food, and their testimony to his generosity is trustworthy.' Groups that were identified as being especially in need of such generosity were widows and orphans. God was identified as having special concern for them (Psalm 68:5). This was not all that the scriptures had to say on the matter. Deuteronomy 24:21 enjoined farmers to leave some of their crops for widows and orphans to harvest and so ensure their survival.

Given this tradition, it is remarkable that two of our readings today highlight the extraordinary generosity of two widows. In foreign territory, Elijah meets a widow and her son and asks to share in what they expect to be their last meal before they die. The widow's extraordinary generosity meets a most unexpected reward. As Jesus watches people contributing to the completion of the Temple, a widow's generosity catches his eye. Like Jeremiah before him, Jesus wanted the Temple to be a place of true worship. This woman's desire to honour God touched his heart – this is what true worship looks like.

Decades later the letter to the Hebrews reflected on Jesus' own self-giving as the perfect sacrifice that embodied and perfected all others. Not only did Jesus give what he had, he gave to the point of death itself. This act of love was the culmination of all Israel's sacrifices becoming the timeless model for ministry and priesthood.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

1 Kings 17:10-16

A reading from the first book of the Kings
The widow made a little scone from her flour and brought it to Elijah.

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said, 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent,
jug of oil shall not be emptied,
before the day when the Lord sends
rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 145:7-10. R. v. 2

R. Praise the Lord, my soul!

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, / who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord, who sets prisoners free. R.
2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, / who raises up those who are bowed down. / It is the Lord who loves the just, / the Lord, who protects the stranger. R.



3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan / but thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age to age. R.

SECOND READING

Heb 9:24-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
Christ offered himself only once to take the faults of many on himself.

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

■ The word of the Lord.

7 Nov 2021
Yr B 32nd Sunday

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

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

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Parish Associate Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.
Administration Di Bolitho / Anne Bowden
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WEEKEND MASSES Vigil: Sat 5.30pm Sun: 9am and 5.30pm

Mon: No Mass Tues: No Mass

WEEKDAY MASSES Wed: 12 noon St Leo the Great

Thur: 9am St Martin of Tours Fri: 9am St Josaphat Sat: 9am

CONFESIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.15pm

*Or by appointment

ENTRANCE: Let my prayer come into your presence.

ANTIPHON: Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

COMMUNION The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green
ANTIPHON: fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose,
near restful waters he leads me.

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

Recently Deceased: John Keogh, Ray Gaffney, Michael Brady, Sr Phyllis McCann rsj,

Anniversaries: Mary McInnes (6/11), Stuart Betts (13/11), Anthony John Croft (17/11), Ian MacPherson (30/11), Perce McInnes (2/12), William Coulston (22/12), Rod Kelly (20/1).

Deceased: Michael Sullivan, Stan Hobbs, Sr Claire Burgess (rsj), Colleen Greer, Gwen Press, Marcia Tutin, Greg Gallagher

Sick: Shirley Hobbs, Barbara Brennan, Kevin Bonner, Maria Mood, Sophie Littlejohn, Lisa Foster, Kate Harrison, Deacon Peter Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Margaret Marshall, Graeme Bussell, Fr Bernie Flood.

PADDY'S CORNER A Genie Grants an Irish Man Three Wishes

The Genie enquires what his first wish will be. "A bottle of whisky!" the man declares. The Genie snaps his fingers and a bottle of whisky appears. The man quickly opens it and drinks the entire bottle of liquor. "What would you like for your second wish?" the Genie asks. "I want another bottle of whisky!" the Irish man replies without hesitation. "You know," the Genie responds, "you can ask for anything. One bottle of whisky is kind of a small thing to wish for. For example, you could ask for an entire case of whisky, or a whole barrel of it. The man thinks for a minute then he says "I want a never ending bottle of whisky!" ----- The Genie snaps his fingers and a bottle of whisky appears in front of the man. He drinks the whole thing down and just as the bottle empties, it magically refills back to the top. The man is visibly well pleased with his choice for his second wish. "So what would you like for your third and final wish?" the Genie asks; "I want another never ending bottle of whisky!"



COMING EVENTS:

21 - 26 Nov Clergy Retreat No Sunday Evening 5.30 pm Mass 21 November

12 Dec Parish Morning Tea

19 March 22 Diocesan Men's Gathering 19th March 2022

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: BSB 082105 1st Coll: Presbytery Acc 00102364
2nd Coll: St Patricks Church Acc 001041198



NSW STATE COVID UPDATE:

Currently having reached 80% vaccination rate for those 16yrs or over the following rules apply.

- Entry to churches is open for both fully vaccinated and not fully vaccinated people
- Masks must be worn by all over 12 yrs inside the church but not outside.
- Social distancing is required at 4m².
- No congregational singing.
- QR Code check in or alternative written sign in is completed

NOVEMBER MASSES: During this month when we remember the eternal souls of those gone before us, you may wish to include your loved ones. Please use envelopes to make requests for Masses to be said for those deceased members of your family and/or friends with their **names written very clearly** so they may be printed and displayed. Thank you.

STAND UP FOR LIFE: Contact local MP Kevin Anderson 67661422 registering your opposition to the NSW Euthanasia legislation. Vote in his survey at www.kevinanderson.com.au/voluntary-assisted-dying-bill-2021 Please see the Bishop's letter on this important matter at www.armidale.catholic.org.au

CLERGY RETREAT: Please note there will be **no 5.30 pm mass** on Sunday 21 November.

INFORMATION ON THE PLENARY COUNCIL: Having undertaken a long preparation seeking widely among the Church members for ideas and synthesising these into an Agenda; the assembly of the delegates who met from October 3 – 10 now move to another step – seeking clarity from the views and discussions of that week to develop proposals. Next July, the second assembly will consider proposals, and vote. After that, some proposals will become 'law' within the Australian Church, others will be ideas and requests forwarded to the Vatican for consideration where they apply to the universal Church.

Patrick McArdle <https://www.catholicvoice.org.au/assembly-over-where-to-from-here/>

ST EDWARDS SCHOOL HISTORY: St Edward's Primary School is hoping to find historic information/records regarding the beginning of St Mary's Church School (1954) which later became St Edwards Primary School. If you have any relevant photos/information please call Hannah on 67657847 or visit the website <https://stedwardstamtworth.catholic.edu.au/alumni/>

MASS AT HOME: **Television:** Mass for You at Home airs on **Channel 10** at 6am each Sunday, and also **Foxtel Channel 173** at 10am. **Online:** Online Masses streamed by the Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney on: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZxfrykD8iSWExFBdM7fpRg>

WEEK 4 ROSTER: 7/11/21

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 13/11 B & B Lane
Altar Linen E Jackson

WEEK 5 ROSTER: 14/11/21

Vigil: R D Bolitho R Palmer
9am Sun: R R Paull G Clout
5.30pm Sun: R M and J Murray
Counting Team P Sheils ; A Bowden
Sat Cleaning 20/11 K O'Brien, J Cunningham
Altar Linen: B Flood

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians who have walked upon and care for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to this country and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

