

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

There will be joy in heaven over one sinner who does penance.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends, and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," he would say "I have found my sheep that was lost." In the same way, I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance.'

'Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly till she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? "Rejoice with me," she would say "I have found the drachma I lost." In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form Lk 15:1-32

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

11 SEPTEMBER 2022

GOD'S MERCY AND FORBEARANCE

If anything could be said to lie at the heart of the Judeo-Christian tradition, it is the message of the love, mercy and forbearance of God. Many people would falsely characterise the God of the Old Testament as a God who condemns and judges. However, the incident of the golden calf is one of several occasions in the Old Testament where God's mercy is shown to be far more powerful than any desire to condemn.

The beginning of the first letter to Timothy reflects on Paul's experience of this loving-kindness of God. It was well known that he who had persecuted the Church (Galatians 1:13; Philippians 3:6) had still been called to serve the Lord as an apostle. The core of the gospel is succinctly stated in one powerful phrase: 'that Christ came into the world to save sinners'.

This is nowhere more beautifully treated in the Gospels than in Luke 15. Faced with the opposition of the scribes and Pharisees when Jesus chooses tax collectors and sinners as companions, Jesus seeks their understanding and a softening of their critical stance by using parables that speak powerfully of God's mercy. It is not simply a matter of God being merciful since it is accompanied by a call for us to share in it by rejoicing that what was lost has now been found. In the kingdom of God sinners that repent will have a special place at the banquet table. The question remains as to whether our hearts are big enough to accept it.

Christopher Monaghan CP

FIRST READING

Ex 32:7-11, 13-14

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord relented and did not send the evil he had threatened.

The Lord spoke to Moses, 'Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostasised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked out for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. "Here is your God, Israel," they have cried "who brought you up from the land of Egypt!" I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me, now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation.'

But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. 'Lord,' he said, 'why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: I will make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and all this land which I promised I will give to your descendants, and it shall be their heritage for ever.' So the Lord relented and did not bring on the people the disaster he had threatened.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 50:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19. R. Lk. 15:18

R. I will rise and go to my father.

1. Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. / In your compassion blot out my offence. / O wash me more and more from my guilt / and cleanse me from my sin. R.

2. A pure heart create for me, O God, / put a steadfast spirit within me. / Do not cast me away from your presence, / nor deprive me of your holy spirit. R.

3. O Lord, open my lips / and my mouth shall declare your praise. / My sacrifice is a contrite spirit; / a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn. R.



SECOND READING

1 Tim 1:12-17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

Christ came to save sinners.

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, and who judged me faithful enough to call into his service even though I used to be a blasphemer and did all I could to injure and discredit the faith. Mercy, however, was shown me, because until I became a believer I had been acting in ignorance; and the grace of our Lord filled me with faith and with the love that is in Christ Jesus. Here is a saying that you can rely on and nobody should doubt: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them; and if mercy has been shown to me, it is because Jesus Christ meant to make me the greatest evidence of his inexhaustible patience for all the other people who would later have to trust in him to come to eternal life. To the eternal King, the undying, invisible and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

2 Cor 5:19

Alleluia, alleluia!

God was in Christ, to reconcile the world to himself; and the Good News of reconciliation he has entrusted to us. Alleluia!

11 Sept 2022
Week 24 Year C

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH



Parish Priest Fr Anthony Koppman
Pastoral Associate: Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.

Administration Di Bolitho, Anne Bowden, Wendy Emery
Sacristan Elaine Smyth
School Principals Greg O'Toole and Maree Holland

Office Hrs: Wed & Thurs 8.30-11.30 am
Presbytery 67658211
Pastoral Associate 0411703608
St Josephs School 67654079

WEEKEND MASSES Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am and 5.30pm

CONFESIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.15pm

*Or by appointment

WEEKDAY MASSES Mon: No Mass Tues: No Mass Wed: 12pm
Thurs: 9am Fri: 9am Sat: No Mass

ENTRANCE ♦ Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you. That your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

ANTIPHON: ♦ How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sr Rita Vella, Barry Schipp.

ANNIVERSARIES: Greg Gallagher (30/8), Matthew Moloney (9/9), Lawrence McDonall (11/9), Sr Maureen Casey OP (13/9), Dulcie Smith (19/9), Mary Betts (24/9), Barbara Scott (25/9).

DECEASED: Lois O'Brien, Bill (William) McCulloch, Hugh O'Brien, William Grima, John Fittler, Colleen Dunn.

SICK: Pauline Wiley, Joan Crowe, Shirley Collier, Norma O'Brien, Lisa Foster, Barbara Brennan, Alison and baby Huxley Gallagher, Peter Richards, Colin MacPherson, Kevin Bonner, Kate Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Deacon Peter Harrison, Margaret Marshall, Graeme Bussell, Fr Bernie Flood.

VEENA'S VERSIONS:

Another priest was breathing fire and brimstone, 'Stand up, I say, stand up, all of ye who prefer sin,' he positively boomed and startled a man who had been sleeping in the back row and who leapt to his feet. 'So you,' roared the irate priest, 'actually prefer sin'. 'Oh, I'm sorry, Father,' answered the man, 'I thought you said gin.'

COMING EVENTS:

Sun 11 Sept: Child Protection Sunday
Mon 19 Sept: Our Lady of La Salette Feast Day
Sun 25 Sept: World Day of Migrants and Refugees
29 Sep-2 Oct: Ignite Conference Sydney



Repent and be forgiven

PARISH COLLECTIONS: West Tamworth Cath. Church (St Pats) **BSB** 082105 **Acc** 001041198
West Tamworth Presbytery **Acc** 001023642

'God loves us all.'



NSW STATE COVID GUIDE:

* FACE MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
* ANTISEPTIC WIPES ARE AVAILABLE TO WIPE OVER SEATS
* SANITISE HANDS ON ENTERING. * NO CHECK IN REQUIRED

IGNITE CONFERENCE: is a bold vision of the Church for the future: A Church passionate about discovering a real, present God and gathering a generation to be on fire for Jesus. Every year, Ignite Youth hosts one of Australia's most powerful Catholic youth conferences. The event will be held in Sydney from 29 September to 2 October 2022. Experience four days of real-world formation, encouragement in faith, great people and powerful worship. There are opportunities to join the conference as a group from Tamworth. Please contact St Nicholas Parish if you would be interested in joining this group. See <https://igniteconference.com.au/> for more details.

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED: ACN is the Pontifical Foundation dedicated to supporting the suffering and persecuted Church. In areas of crisis, churches are often destroyed by violence. Where the faith is growing new churches are needed. ACN supports the reconstruction in these areas because a church is the centre of the life of faith and even the smallest chapel provides people with hope and a spiritual home. Can you help build churches to support the faithful throughout the world?

www.aidtochurch.org/construction

EMBRACE THE CALL TO GLOBAL MISSION: American Samoa, Cambodia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Zambia are requesting Australian Catholics to live in and share their skills with parish communities. Embrace one of these [Mission opportunities abroad](#) and mentor those with little other opportunity. You will be well prepared and supported by Palms Australia who have engaged Australian Catholics in this mission since 1961.

[Enquire online](#) or Ph: 0422 742 567 and [Register](#) for a Webinar on **Saturday September 24th** at 11:30am where you can talk directly with Veronica Lawson who is mentoring teachers in Pago Pago, American Samoa now. Or visit others already engaged in Mission with Palms on our [13-day Encounter Tour to Timor-Leste from October 16th to 28th](#).

CATHOLIC WEEKLY STORIES IN THIS EDITION: • Suffering in the suburbs. Cost of living drives record numbers to Lifeline. • Elephant in the room. Behind the Knox scandal. • The Screwtape Letters goes on stage. • One step closer. Couple nearer to seeing children. • Movie review: Mother Teresa: No Greater Love • Books: Recovering lost wisdom

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: Giving to St Patricks Church is possible by electronic transfer to the Church Account as shown opposite, or by Direct Debit arranged via your bank. The parish is so thankful for all your support. Giving to the first collection goes to the Armidale Diocese to support diocesan clergy.

WEEK 6 ROSTER: 11/9/22

Vigil: R D Gowing, Sr Kathryn
9am Sun: R S Brown, A Sartori
5.30pm Sun: R D Bearman M Murray
Counting Team G & M Thrift, A Bowden
Sat Cleaning 17/9 K O'Brien, J Cunningham
Altar Linen B Flood

WEEK 1 ROSTER: 18/9/22

Vigil: R C Ledwos P Bamford
9am Sun: R S Nichols G Clout
5.30pm Sun: R C Lavell M Murray
Counting Team P Sheils; A Bowden
Sat Cleaning 24/9 J Hutt & J Moran
Altar Linen: E Smyth

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.

