

GOSPEL

Mt 4:12-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He went to Capernaum, that the prophecy of Isaiah be fulfilled.

Hearing that John had been arrested Jesus went back to Galilee, and leaving Nazareth he went and settled in Capernaum, a lakeside town on the borders of Zebulun and Naphtali. In this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled: Land of Zebulun! Land of Naphtali! / Way of the sea on the far side of Jordan, / Galilee of the nations! / The people that lived in darkness / has seen a great light; / on those who dwell in the land and shadow of death / a light has dawned. From that moment Jesus began his preaching with the message, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.'

As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee he saw two brothers, Simon, who was called Peter, and his brother Andrew; they were making a cast in the lake with their net, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.' And they left their nets at once and followed him.

Going on from there he saw another pair of brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they were in their boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. At once, leaving the boat and their father, they followed him.

He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Shorter form: 4: 12-17

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Breaking Open the Word



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

THE SAVING WORD

22 JANUARY 2023

CHRIST'S LIGHT

Many of us have had the experience of searching desperately for a torch or candle in the midst of a blackout. It can be a confusing and discouraging time till we find some source of light. Isaiah knew that the people of Galilee were in need of some encouragement and light in those dark days after the Assyrians had conquered their cities and led them into exile. He looks forward in hope to the day when God will lead them home and remove their burden.

For Matthew Jesus' ministry could be best understood and viewed through the filter of Isaiah's prophecy. A light dawns as Jesus begins his ministry, a ministry of teaching, healing and encouragement. The burden the people carry is now being gently lifted away by Jesus' compassion and care. It is, however, a ministry that is not to be Jesus' alone. From the beginning, others such as Peter and Andrew, James and John, are called to share generously in bringing others into the light of the kingdom.

When members of Chloe's household reported to Paul that the Corinthian community was divided he knew that they had unwittingly returned to fumbling around lost in the dark. How was he to bring them back? First of all, he reminds them that Paul, Apollos and Cephas were to be seen as nothing more other than the bearers and preachers of Christ's light. He forcefully reminds them that their unity is to be found in Jesus who gave the most eloquent sermon of all when he offered his life on the cross.

FIRST READING

Isa 8:23-9:3

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

In the Galilean country, the people have seen a great light.

In days past the Lord humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in days to come he will confer glory on the Way of the Sea on the far side of Jordan, province of the nations.

The people that walked in darkness
has seen a great light;
on those who live in a land of deep shadow
a light has shone.

You have made their gladness greater,
you have made their joy increase;
they rejoice in your presence
as men rejoice at harvest time,
as men are happy when they are dividing
the spoils.

For the yoke that was weighing on him,
the bar across his shoulders,
the rod of his oppressor,
these you break as on the day of Midian.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 26:1, 4,13-14. R.v.1

R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

1. The Lord is my light and my salvation; / whom shall I fear? / The Lord is the stronghold of my life; / before whom shall I shrink? R.

2. There is one thing I ask of the Lord, / for this I long, / to live in the house of the Lord, / all the days of my life, / to savour the sweetness of the Lord, / to behold his temple. R.

3. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness / in the land of the living. / Hope in him, hold firm and take heart. / Hope in the Lord! R.



SECOND READING

1 Cor 1:10-13,17

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

I appeal to you, my brothers and sisters, make up the differences between you.

I appeal to you, brothers, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, to make up the differences between you, and instead of disagreeing among yourselves, to be united again in your belief and practice. From what Chloe's people have been telling me, my dear brothers, it is clear that there are serious differences among you. What I mean are all these slogans that you have, like: 'I am for Paul', 'I am for Apollos', 'I am for Cephas', 'I am for Christ'. Has Christ been parcelled out? Was it Paul that was crucified for you? Were you baptised in the name of Paul?

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News, and not to preach that in the terms of philosophy in which the crucifixion of Christ cannot be expressed.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4:23

Alleluia, alleluia! / Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom, / and healed all who were sick. / Alleluia!

Christopher Monaghan CP

22 Jan 23
Wk 3 Yr A

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>
Email: westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au



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
Mon: 9am **Tues:** 9 am
Wed: 12pm The Conversion of St Paul
Thurs: 9 am Australia Day **Fri:** *No Mass

CONFESIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.15pm

*Or by appointment

ENTRANCE O sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth.

ANTIPHON: In His presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in His holy place.

COMMUNION Look toward the Lord and be radian; let your faces not be bashed.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: William Barry Davy, Cardinal George Pell, Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, Barbara Smith, Des Saunders, Val McInnes (Riordan), Margaret Greentree, Lyn Moore, Andrew Brennan, Beryl Wright.

ANNIVERSARIES: Mary Sampson (2/1), John O'Brien (3/1), Pamela Davy (nee Barry) (6/1), Ivan Lillicrap (18/1), Rod Taylor (20/1), Maria Mood (15/2).

DECEASED: Relatives and friends of Kathie O'Brien, Pamela Davy, Rod Kelly, Gwen Gerathy, Les Wallworth, Margaret Marshall, Valerie Chillingworth, Sr Rita Vella, Barry Schipp.

SICK: Wendy Emery, Terry Dean, Sr Gerard Joseph, Gail Styman, Suzanne Roberts, Shane Davidson, Pauline Wiley, Joan Crowe, Lisa Foster, Shirley Collier, Norma O'Brien, Barbara Brennan, William Bonner, Colin MacPherson, Alison and baby Huxley Gallagher, Peter Richards, Kate Harrison, Maureen Harrison, Deacon Peter Harrison, Graeme Bussell, Fr Bernie Flood.

VEENA'S VERSIONS:

Why can't you improve the efficiency of wind farms by playing country music around them? *Because they're really just big heavy metal fans.

A guy walks down Music Row carrying a guitar. A car pulls up and a tourist asks, "Excuse me, do you know how you get to the Country Music Hall of Fame?" "Yeah," the man spits out. **"Practice 'til you're dead!"



COMING EVENTS:
22 Feb Lent begins **4 Mar** Reflection Day **9 April** Easter Sunday

PARISH COLLECTIONS: The parish is thankful for all your support. The first collection (Presbytery Acc) goes to the Armidale Diocese to support diocesan clergy with the second collection (Church Acc) supporting the running of St Patricks.

BSB 082105 1st. Collection - West Tamworth Presbytery (Dioc) Acc 001023642

2nd Collection - . West Tamworth Catholic Ch. (St Pats) Acc 001041198

"True Humility seems to me to be unreal unless accompanied by a sweet and thoughtful charity" (1870)



COVID GUIDE: * FACE MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
* ANTISEPTIC WIPES & SANITISER ARE AVAILABLE.

COUNTRY MUSIC: We hope you are continuing to enjoy your time with us as we wrap up Country Music for another year and we look forward to seeing you again.

FRIDAY MASS TIME CHANGE: Please note that there **will be** mass at 9am on Monday and Tuesday this week, however there is **NO MASS** on Friday this week.

VOLUNTEER CALL OUT FOR ST PATRICK'S AND NAZARETH CARE:

"Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart." (Elizabeth Andrew)

There are so many roles needing to be fulfilled in our Parish and in our wider Catholic community. If you feel you could give some time for one of these important roles, like reading, scripture teaching, garden maintenance, operating overhead projector or so many others, please get in touch with the Office on 6765 8211. *Could you possibly consider becoming a volunteer and make a difference in the lives of the elderly at Nazareth Care? Please ring Sr Ana on 6761 2356, she would very much welcome a chat with you.

LENT: Ash Wednesday will be on 22 February—a very early Lent this year. Keep this in mind if you are wanting to participate in any program. Lists will be placed at the back of the church for you to show your preferred time to join a group.. And remember the reflection day to be held on 4 March in preparation for Lent.

2023 SAVE THE DATES: Following the success of the Evangelise 2022 Diocesan hubs Bishop Kennedy invites interested parishioners to attend a series of follow-up zoom hubs and face to face gatherings to be held across the diocese on the following Fridays 24th February, 26th May, 25th August, 17th November. Further information will be provided closer to the date

SATURDAY 4 MARCH 2023: Sr Kathryn has also asked that we all save this date. Something special is coming ... watch this space for details.

CATHOLIC WEEKLY: This weekend's edition is devoted to tributes following the death of Cardinal George Pell. There is also a special commemorative magazine featuring articles by Archbishop Fisher and Catholic Weekly contributors reflecting on their association with and memories of His Eminence and his significance in the life of the modern Church.

WORD OF GOD SUNDAY: The Church in Australia celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God on the first Sunday in February – February 5 in 2023 (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A). Pope Francis established the day, which is devoted to "the celebration, study and dissemination" of the Word of God. Visit www.catholic.org.au/wordofgodsunday for resources to help commemorate the day and suggestions on how to better engage with Sacred Scripture in various ways and settings.

WEEK 1 ROSTER: 22/1/23

Vigil: R C Ledwos P Bamford
9am Sun: R S Nichols G Clout
5.30pm Sun: R R Paull M Murray
Counting Team: P Shiels, A Bowden
Sat Cleaning: 28/1 J Hutt, J Moran
Altar Linen: E Jackson

WEEK 2 ROSTER: 29/1/23

Vigil: R Sr Kathryn/ C Ledwos N Pullman
9am Sun: R S Brown O Monet
5.30pm Sun: R D Bearman J Murray
Counting Team: S Brown, A Bowden
Sat Cleaning: 4/2 M Vella & R Pace
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.

