

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

Jesus said to the Jews:

'I am the living bread which has come down from heaven.

Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world.'

Then the Jews started arguing with one another: 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?' they said. Jesus replied:

'I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you.

Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood

has eternal life,

and I shall raise him up on the last day.

For my flesh is real food

and my blood is real drink.

He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him.

As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father,

so whoever eats me will draw life from me.

This is the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate:

they are dead,

but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Breaking Open the Word

A PROMISE OF LIFE

On the feast of the Body and Blood of Christ, we are invited to consider the sustaining love of God in the past, present, and future. Deuteronomy calls us to remember how God nourished the people of Israel in the desert. Amid great hardship on that long journey to the land of promise, it was the living God who provided the people with the means to overcome thirst and hunger.

In trying to help the Corinthians address the division among them Paul stresses the role the Eucharist has in the present. United with Christ's great act of self-giving, Christians are called to celebrate the source of their unity. Moreover, their participation is a solemn pledge to overcome division by working to reflect who they are, the body of Christ Jesus.

The future aspects of the Eucharist become apparent in today's reading from John's Gospel. It reflects how the early church had come to understand that the Eucharist they celebrated was the most precious of gifts. Unlike the manna in the desert, it is a source of life that will carry us through all of life's journeys and is a reminder, promise, and preparation of the eternal life that awaits us.

The Eucharist prompts us to remember God's sustaining acts in the past as a source of encouragement for the present. We are called to continue Jesus' mission and message by working for unity in the present to be ready and worthy to share in eternal life which has been prepared for us in the future.

Christopher Monaghan CP



THE SAVING WORD

THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST / A

11 JUNE 2023

FIRST READING

Deut 8:2-3, 14-16

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

He gave you food which you and your ancestors did not know.

Moses said to the people: 'Remember how the Lord your God led you for forty years in the wilderness, to humble you, to test you and to know your inmost heart – whether you would keep his commandments or not. He humbled you, he made you feel hunger, he fed you with manna which neither you nor your fathers had known, to make you understand that man does not live on bread alone but that man lives on everything that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

'Do not then forget the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery: who guided you through this vast and dreadful wilderness, a land of fiery serpents, scorpions, thirst; who in this waterless place brought you water from the hardest rock; who in this wilderness fed you with manna that your fathers had not known.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

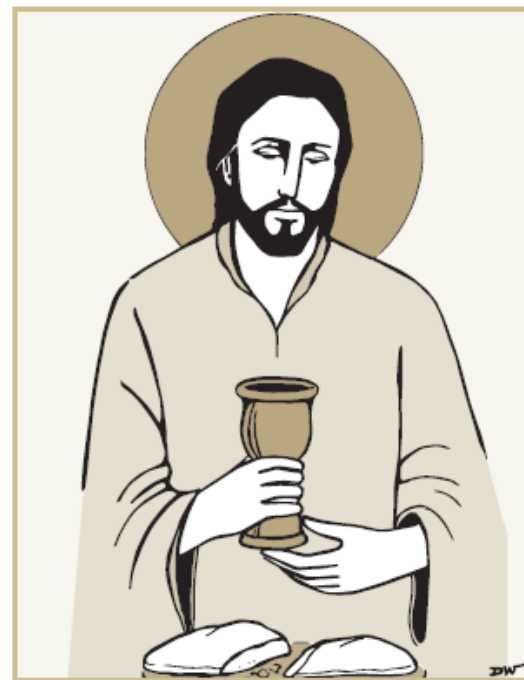
Ps 147:12-15, 19-20. R. v. 12

R. Praise the Lord, Jerusalem. (or Alleluia!)

1. O praise the Lord, Jerusalem! / Zion, praise your God! / He has strengthened the bars of your gates, / he has blessed the children within you. R.

2. He established peace on your borders, / he feeds you with finest wheat. / He sends out his word to the earth / and swiftly runs his command. R.

3. He makes his word known to Jacob, / to Israel his laws and decrees. / He has not dealt thus with other nations; / he has not taught them his decrees. R.



SECOND READING

1 Cor 10:16-17

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

Though we are many, we form a single body because we share this one loaf.

The blessing-cup that we bless is a communion with the blood of Christ, and the bread that we break is a communion with the body of Christ. The fact that there is only one loaf means that, though there are many of us, we form a single body because we all have a share in this one loaf.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 6:51-52

Alleluia, alleluia! / I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord; / whoever eats this bread will live for ever. / Alleluia!

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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11 June 23
Wk 9 Yr A

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

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



Parish Priest Fr Anthony Koppman
Pastoral Associate: Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.
Administration Di Bolitho, Anne Bowden
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 & **5.00 pm**
WEEKDAY MASSES Wed: 12 noon Thur: 9am
Fri: 9am Sacred Heart of Jesus



CONFESSIONS
Sat: 4.30-5.15pm
*Or by appointment

ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON: *He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.*

COMMUNION ANTI-PHON: *Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I and him, says the Lord.*

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Margaret Peterson, Michael Kenny (Kendal), John Gray, Sr Patricia Bartley rsj, Sister Carole Gibbins rsj, Sr Judith Carney rsm, Maureen Travers, Greg Hiscox, Terry Doherty, Marjie Balfe.

ANNIVERSARIES: John Varga (1/6), Pat Smyth (7/6), Walter Uner (9/6), Grant D'Elboux (21/6), Alfred Uner (28/6).

DECEASED: Sophie Littlejohns, Father Efen Musngi MS, Marian Murphy, Ann Daly, Charlie Burns Carmel MacPherson, Peter Richards.

SICK: Monica Austin, Margaret Doyle, Baby Walker MacAlpine, Sandra Sheedy, John Betts, Gerard Dunn, Sr Gerard Joseph, Suzanne Roberts, Shane Davidson, Pauline Wiley, Joan Crowe, Lisa Foster, Shirley Collier, Norma O'Brien, Barbara Brennan, Colin MacPherson, Kate Harrison, Terry Dean, Maureen Harrison, Deacon Peter Harrison, William Bonner, Graeme Bussell, Alison and baby Huxley Gallagher, Fr Bernie Flood.

VEENA'S VERSIONS



Winters are fierce in Canberra where Jo lives, so the owner of a construction project felt he was doing a good deed when he bought earmuffs for his foreman. Noticing, however, that the foreman wasn't wearing the earmuffs even on the bitterest day, the project manager asked, "Didn't you like the muffs?" The Foreman said, "They're a thing of beauty." "Why don't you wear them?" The Project Manager said. The Foreman explained, "I was wearing them the first day, and somebody offered to buy me lunch, but I didn't hear him! Never again, never again!"

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: BSB 082105

1st. Collection - West Tamworth Presbytery Acc No: 001023642 (Diocesan collection)

2nd Collection - West Tamworth Catholic (St Patricks) Church Acc No: 001041198

**Direct Debit or EFT donations are preferred for planned giving; however envelopes are still available.

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COVID GUIDE: * FACE MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED;
*ANTISEPTIC WIPES/SANITISER AVAILABLE

"Remember, there is, even on this earth, a day of bright reward for all your prayers and faithful perseverance"



SUNDAY MASS TIME: *PLEASE REMEMBER Sunday afternoon Mass time is now 5pm. Please note this if you regularly attend this service.

CHANGE TO FRIDAY MASS TIME: Friday mass time will change from 9 am to 12 noon from Friday 7 July. Please take note of this change of time for a trial over winter.

FUNDRAISER FOR 'HOPE SOUP KITCHEN': On Sunday 18 June at 12 noon soup and rolls with a movie of Andrea Rieu will be held at St Patrick's Parish Centre by the Catholic Women's League. Cost \$10. All welcome. Reply Robyn English 0448114366 or Elaine Smyth 67655694

FORMATION OPPORTUNITY—CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD: The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) is a Christian formation process for children aged 3-12 years to help them nurture their personal relationship with God. It is a worldwide ministry that we hope to start in our Diocese. The first Level of formation will be run at the Holy Family Parish Centre, Armidale, June 29th – 2nd July and 6-8th October (9am-5pm daily). All Parishioners welcome to attend. For details contact Janine Turner 0416 767 866 or Monica Nulley-Davis 0450 419 688.

SAVE CALVARY HOSPITAL: On Wednesday 10 May 2023, the ACT Government announced that it would compulsorily acquire Calvary Public Hospital in Canberra. The Hospital is an apostolic work of the *Little Company of Mary* and has served residents of the ACT and nearby NSW towns since 1979. Archbishop Prowse has called for the decision to be revisited and has established a taskforce to challenge the ACT Government's plan. The forced takeover of one Catholic apostolic work that receives government funding presents an unknown risk to other Catholic apostolic works which also receive government funding. You may wish to join in supporting this taskforce by signing the petition 'Save Calvary' (<https://www.savecalvary.com.au/>).

STATEMENT REGARDING ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER VOICE FROM AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS: This statement is available via the bulletin email, on the notice board, and in hard copy by request. As per the Bishops' request in this statement, everyone is encouraged to read and discuss the Uluru Statement from the Heart, which they endorsed in 2021 and the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia endorsed in 2022.

ST VINCENT PALLOTTI SCHOLARSHIP TRUST The St Vincent Pallotti Scholarship Trust offers scholarships enable lay people to further understanding and skills in leadership/ministry or specialised activity, such as promoting faith enhancement, social justice and pastoral care. More information and Applications Forms on website pallottine.org.au/svpscholarship Closing Date 4 August 2023.



WEEK 3 ROSTER: 11/6/23

Vigil: R C Ledwos P Bamford
9am Sun: R M Holley A Sartori
5.00pm Sun: R M Murray D Bearman
Counting Team G and M Thrift A Bowden
Fri Cleaning 16/6 J Hutt J Moran
Altar Linen: M Vella

WEEK 4 ROSTER: 18/6/23

Vigil: R D Bolitho Sr Kathryn
9am Sun: R S Brown, M Donaldson
5.30pm Sun: R J Murray C Lavell
Counting Team G & M Thrift, A Bowden
Fri Cleaning 23/6 M Vella A Jones
Altar Linen: E Smyth

We acknowledge the First Nations people who have walked upon and care for this land for thousands of years. We acknowledge the continued deep spiritual attachment and relationship of First Nations people to this land and commit ourselves to the ongoing journey of Reconciliation.

