

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Command me to come to you over the water.

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a headwind. In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. 'It is a ghost' they said, and cried out in fear. But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.' It was Peter who answered. 'Lord', he said 'if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.' 'Come' said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. 'Lord! Save me!' he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. 'Man of little faith,' he said 'why did you doubt?' And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, 'Truly, you are the Son of God.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

THE LORD WITH US IN OUR STRUGGLES

Elijah comes to Mt Horeb because his life is at risk, and he is terrified and discouraged. Having lost hope, he fled into the wilderness to die, and yet it is here that he rediscovers his mission and vocation as prophet. In the turmoil that surrounds him he recognises the Lord's voice, and the promise of a new beginning, not in earthquakes or fire, but in a gentle breeze.

When Jesus' walks on the water towards the disciples his presence was first greeted with terror as their boat struggled with heavy seas and winds. His encouraging words calm their fears and lead Peter to take up his invitation to come to him across the water. His newly found courage is short-lived, but he has sufficient faith to call on Jesus to save him. Immediately, Jesus reaches out and brings him into the boat and calms the storm that threatened to engulf them all. In the life of faith there are moments when events and circumstances threaten to overpower us. In these moments we too need to hear the words: 'Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.'

The next three weeks' readings from Paul's letter to the Romans reveal how he wrestled with a theological storm caused by Gentile acceptance of Jesus as their saviour while many people in Israel had rejected him. How could it be that a people who had received so many blessings had missed such an opportunity? Paul comes to appreciate how God's saving plan comes to fulfillment in ways we do not expect.

Christopher Monaghan CP



THE SAVING WORD

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

13 AUGUST 2023

FIRST READING

I Kings 19:9, 11-13

A reading from the first book of the Kings

Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord God.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.' Then the Lord himself went by. There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord. But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake. But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire. But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze. And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 84:9-14. R. v. 8

R. Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.

1. I will hear what the Lord God has to say, / a voice that speaks of peace. / His help is near for those who fear him / and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

2. Mercy and faithfulness have met; / justice and peace have embraced. / Faithfulness shall spring from the earth / and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

3. The Lord will make us prosper / and our earth shall yield its fruit. / Justice shall march before him / and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**



SECOND READING

Rom 9:1-5

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

I would willingly be condemned if it could help my people.

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood. They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ps 129:5

Alleluia, alleluia! / I hope in the Lord, / I trust in his word. / Alleluia!

13 Aug 23
Wk 19 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 Sun: 5.00pm
WEEKDAY MASSES Tues: 12 noon Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary
Wed: 12 noon Mass
Thur: 9am Mass Fri: 12pm Mass

CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.15pm

*Or by appointment

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: Look to your covenant, O Lord, and forget not the life of your poor ones for ever. Arise, O God, and defend your cause, and forget not the cries of those who seek you

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Oh Jerusalem, glorify the Lord, who gives you your fill of finest wheat.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Suzanne Roberts, Tony Williams, Eric Johnston, Sr Margaret Lambert, rsj, Sr Katharine Louis, rsj, Fr Lewis Fenton, Sr Janet Cummings RSJ, John Geaney.

ANNIVERSARIES: Anthony Cavanagh (4/8), Margaret Parker (4/8), Phyl Pyrke (7/8), Jack Sampson (9/8), Joseph Urner (16/8).

DECEASED: Peter Sullivan, Harold Ward, Eva McLean, Joe McLean, Bill McLean, Margaret Peterson, John Gray, Sophie Littlejohns.

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

VEENA'S VERSIONS



Paddy had long heard the stories of an amazing family tradition. It seems that his father, grandfather and great-grandfather had all been able to walk on water on their 18th birthday. On that special day, they'd each walked across the lake to the pub on the far side for their first legal drink. So when Paddy's 18th birthday came around, he and his pal Mick, took a boat out to the middle of the lake, Paddy, stepped out of the boat ... and nearly drowned! Mick just barely managed to pull him back into the boat and safety. Furious and confused, Paddy, went to see his grandmother. 'Grandma,' he asked, 'Tis me 18th birthday, so why can't I walk 'cross the lake like me forefarders did?' Granny looked deeply into Paddy's, troubled blue eyes and said, 'Because ye farder, ye grandfarder and ye great-grandfarder were all born in January, when the lake is frozen, and ye were born in August, ya fool!'

COMING EVENTS:

13 Aug: Confirmation Mass 9 am
Sept 28 - 1 Oct Ignite Conference in Sydney

25 Aug: Mission & Evangelisation Youth & the Church
Oct 15-20: Events for Marriage & Family Week

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

*"Suspect any zeal which makes you for one moment
comment upon the actions of others" (1895)*



CONFIRMATION MASS AND MORNING TEA:

All are invited to join in the Confirmation Mass this **Sunday 13 August at 9am**. Please join the children for a celebration morning tea after the mass., and bring a plate to share if you are able.

ASSUMPTION OF BLESSED VIRGIN MARY: Tuesday 15 August is a holy day of obligation. Mass here at 12 noon and others Kootingal 7 am, St Mary's 9 am, St Edwards 10 am and 6 pm.

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF SR MARIA OF THE IMMACULATE HEART OCD: Many parishioners may remember Sr Maria (Felicity Bailes) from her work in our Parish. She will celebrate her Golden Jubilee at the Carmelite Monastery, Goonellabah on **15th August**. If anyone wishes to attend please contact Sr Maria on 0458175185. Sr Maria says she would be grateful for your prayers.

VINNIES SLEEPOUT TAMWORTH: McCarthy Catholic College Friday 25 August 2023. Please enrol as a participant or donate via QR code on the poster at the back of the church. A great night with dinner provided by the **HOPE Kitchen** on site and presentations about **homelessness** and the work of Vinnies. Contact: Patrick Mahony 0427851651 or Jann Browne 0409657277. Go to [Vinnies Community Sleepout](https://vinniescommunitysleepout.com.au) for more.

IGNITE CONFERENCE: The next Ignite Conference will be held at the Broken Bay Cathedral Precinct from 28 Sep - 1 Oct. St Nicholas' Parish Tamworth and McCarthy Catholic College have already planned to take a group. Expressions of interest are invited from other parishioners around the Diocese to join them. Ignite is no longer simply a conference for youth; there are now streams available for every age group, so families, couples and singles are all welcome to join in. Please direct your enquires/expressions of interest to Chris Da Silva at chris@armidale.catholic.org.au, or visit <https://igniteconference.com.au/sydney> for more information

PALMS AUSTRALIA: Communities in Africa, Asia or the Pacific are seeking Australians from a variety of professions and trades to share their skills and knowledge with those who have few other chances for training. Build enduring global relationships while assisting sustainable, self-reliant, community development. Explore 35 positions by scanning the QR code below. On our website gives news including stories from those currently supported in Timor-Leste, Samoa, American Samoa and Thailand. Please enquire further about potential assignments for you or someone you contact: **02 9560 5333 or 0422 472 567** or visit palms.org.au

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

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

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WEEK 6 ROSTER: 13/8/23

Vigil: R D Gowing, G Styman
9am Sun: R J Ryan, M Holley
5 pm Sun: R M Murray A O'Halloran
Counting Team G & M Thrift, A Bowden
Fri Cleaning 18/8 M Vella and A Jones
Altar Linen: E Jackson

WEEK 1 ROSTER: 21/8/23

Vigil: R C Ledwos Sr Kathryn
9am Sun: R S Nichols G Clout
5 pm Sun: R M Murray C Lavell
Counting Team P Sheils; A Bowden
Fri Cleaning 25/8 S Brown and V Griffiths
Altar Linen: M Vella

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.

