

GOSPEL

Mt 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Whomsoever you find invite to the wedding.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants. "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

*Shorter form, Mt 22: 1-10*

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**  
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# Breaking Open the Word

## CALLED TO HOPE

The readings for today are both comforting and unsettling. Isaiah's vision of the whole human family gathered in peace on the mountain of the Lord is one that all people of goodwill hope will one day come to pass. The Gospel, on the other hand, introduces a discordant and unsettling note as Jesus continues to confront his opponents with the disturbing parable of the wedding feast. It seems hardly fair that a poor man dragged off the street to make up the numbers at a wedding feast should then be cast out because he was improperly dressed. If Matthew is compared with Luke 14:15-24 it quickly becomes apparent that Matthew has combined two parables of Jesus regarding weddings. One spoke of guests who were invited but refused, the other spoke of someone who came to a wedding improperly dressed. Since Matthew's community comprised both Jewish and Gentile Christians it seems his aim was to make sure both groups avoided complacency and taking God's gracious invitation for granted.

As Paul reflects on his experience as an apostle, one thing he learned was that there was no room for complacency. The ministry he had received to preach the gospel was one which entailed many risks, poverty and plenty, acceptance and rejection. In order to preach the gospel, he worked to support himself but was often assisted by communities that he had established. As he nears the conclusion of the letter to the community in Philippi, he thanks them for their generosity and support.

Christopher Monaghan CP

# THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

15 OCTOBER 2023

## FIRST READING

Isa 25:6-10

A reading from the prophet Isaiah  
*The Lord will prepare a feast and will wipe away the tears from every cheek.*

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 22. R. v. 6

**R.** I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; / there is nothing I shall want. / Fresh and green are the pastures / where he gives me repose. / Near restful waters he leads me, / to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path; / he is true to his name. / If I should walk in the valley of darkness / no evil would I fear. / You are there with your crook and your staff; / with these you give me comfort. **R.**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me / in the sight of my foes. / My head you have anointed with oil; / my cup is overflowing. **R.**



4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me / all the days of my life. / In the Lord's own house shall I dwell / for ever and ever. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Phil 4:12-14, 19-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

*I am able to do all things in him who strengthens me.*


I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Eph 1:17, 18

Alleluia, alleluia! / May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ / enlighten the eyes of our heart, / that we might see how great is the hope / to which we are called. / Alleluia!

15 Oct 23 Wk 28 Yr A		<b><u>WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH</u></b>		
		<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org">https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org</a>		
		<b>Email:</b> <a href="mailto:westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au">westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au</a>		
<b><u>Parish Priest</u></b>	Fr Anthony Koppman			
<b><u>Pastoral Associate:</u></b>	Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.			
<b><u>Administration</u></b>	Di Bolitho, Anne Bowden			
<b><u>Sacristan</u></b>	Elaine Smyth			
<b><u>School Principals</u></b>	Greg O'Toole and Maree Holland			
<b><u>Office Hrs:</u></b> Wed & Thurs 8.30-11.30 am				<b>Presbytery</b> 67658211 <b>Pastoral Associate</b> 0411703608 <b>St Josephs School</b> 67654079
<b>WEEKEND MASSES</b>	<b>Sat:</b> 5.30 pm	<b>Sun:</b> 9am	<b>Sun:</b> 5 pm	<b><u>CONFESSIONS</u></b>
<b>WEEKDAY MASSES</b>	<b>Wed:</b> Mass 12 noon	<b>Thur:</b> Mass 9 am		<b>Sat: 4.30-5.00 pm</b>
	<b>Fri:</b> Mass 12 noon			*Or by appointment

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But with you is found forgiveness, O God of Israel.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Raphael, Evita and Philomena Smith, Peter Nally, Fr John Carey, Frank Koppman (Fr Anthony's Dad), Sandra Sheedy, Sr Gemma Burke rsm, Sr Petra Ries RSJ.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Warren Doherty (6/10), Neddie Clarke (12/10), Michael Brady (13/10), Bill Teo (29/10).

**DECEASED:** Joy Graham, Shirley Collier, Nell Flexman, Josephine Galea, Sr Betty Kennedy, Eva, Joe and Bill McLean, Mel and Mary Hutchins, Suzanne Roberts, Tony Williams, Eric Johnston, Sr Margaret Lambert RSJ, Sr Katharine Louis RSJ, Fr Lewis Fenton, Sr Janet Cummings RSJ.

**SICK:** Pauline Miller, Monica Austin, Margaret Doyle, Baby Walker MacAlpine, John Betts, Gerard Dunn, Sr Gerard Joseph, Shane Davidson, Joan Crowe, Lisa Foster, 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 Usual Suspicions**  
*After Adam stayed out late a few nights, Eve became suspicious.  
 "You're seeing another woman— admit it!" she demanded.  
 "What other woman?" Adam shot back. "You're it!"*

*That night, Adam was fast asleep when he was awakened by  
 Eve poking him in the chest "What are you doing?" "Counting your ribs!."*

**CHURCH COLLECTIONS:** **BSB 082 105**

**1st. Collection - West Tamworth Presbytery**

Acc No: 001023642 (Diocesan collection)

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

\*\*Direct Debit or EFT donations are preferred for planned giving; (envelopes are still available)

**COMING EVENTS:**

**Oct 15-20:** Marriage & Family Week

**Nov 1 - All Saints Day Mass 12 noon**

**Nov 2 - All Souls Day Mass 12 noon**

**COVID: \* FACE MASKS RECOMMENDED; \* SANITISER AVAILABLE**  
*"Are not God's ways wonderful with us all." (1873)*



**PRAYERS AND THANKS:** Our thanks are extended to Fr Ross O'Brien for his continued pastoral care for our Parish. Please keep Fr Ross in your prayers as he works hard to provide for our spiritual needs during Fr Anthony's absence.

Please continue your prayers for Father Anthony and his family that their faith will help them at their difficult time of grieving.

We also ask for continued prayers for the Smith Family after the very tragic loss of their three children and Grandfather in the recent plane accident. David is the Financial Administrator for the Armidale Diocese and our thoughts and prayers go out to his entire family at this incredibly difficult time. We pray for them and the souls of their children and father in law.

May all these deceased rest peacefully in God's loving care and those who mourn them be wrapped in God's unending love and receive His strength in their faith to endure and cope with their loss.

**MARRIAGE AND FAMILY WEEK** will be celebrated in the Diocese from 15-20 October. The Diocesan website has some wonderful resources to assist us in our many roles in marriage and in family. Visit <https://armidale.catholic.org.au/family-resources/> and learn more about passing on the faith, fatherhood, the gift of grandparents and the adventure of love which is family life.

**MARRIAGE:** We congratulate and prayer for Stephanie Simmons and Scott Crouch who received the sacrament of marriage recently. May their life together be blessed by God.

**BAPTISMS:** We welcome into our Parish community those who have been baptised recently:

Riley Kirby, Christopher Rummery, Emmy Belle Coppock, Patrick Murray, Mia Rose Russell, Logan Russell, Bruno McCallum, Zoe Marguerite Denyer, Aurelia Mary Griffiths-West, Camilla McCulloch, Travis Tallar, Gus Leehy, Louie Vazquez.

**OCTOBER:** The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary, one of the best known of all Catholic devotions. October includes the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary last Friday with October 13th the date of our Blessed Mother's final public appearance to the shepherd children of Fatima and the occurrence of the "Miracle of the Sun" (1918). If we consider the power of the Rosary as seen in its effects, we find a great abundance of proofs of its wonderful value. The Rosary is recited each Saturday and Sunday before the 5.30pm and 9am Masses and before each mass during the week.

**ST JOSEPH'S COLOUR RUN:** Our wonderful little school will hold the Annual Colour Run as a fund raiser this week. If anyone would like to donate please make a direct deposit to BSB: 082-105 ACC-001057186, Account Name St Joseph's Catholic School.

**VIEWPOINT:** Please see the below link for the latest edition of Catholic Viewpoint to view in Flipbook Magazine style. [Catholic Viewpoint – Issue 11 – Jul-Sept 2023](#)

**JOSEPHITE CALENDAR 2024:** These will be available for \$10 each. Please place your order on the sheet provided at the back of the church. Orders need to be in by the end of October.

**WEEK 3 ROSTER: 15/10/23**

**Vigil:** R C Ledwos Di Bolitho  
**9am Sun:** R M Holley A Sartori  
**5.00pm Sun:** R M Murray D Bearman  
**Counting Team** R Paull, A Bowden  
**Fri Cleaning** S Brown V Griffiths  
**Altar Linen:** J Hutt

**WEEK 4 ROSTER: 22/10/23**

**Vigil:** R P Bamford Sr Kathryn  
**9am Sun:** R S Brown, M Donaldson  
**5.00pm Sun:** R J Murray C Lavell  
**Counting Team** S Brown, A Bowden  
**Fri Cleaning** K O'Brien, M Brown  
**Altar Linen:** E Jackson

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.

