

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Apoc 1: 8

Alleluia, alleluia! / Glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: / to God who is, who was, and who is to come. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mt 28: 16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Baptise them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



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Breaking Open the Word

UNIQUENESS OF GOD AS TRINITY

The mystery of the Trinity as part of the revelation of God is something that we have come to know as part of our faith. As we engage with the readings today, we encounter something of the biblical journey to the understanding we have.

The verses of Deuteronomy focus on the uniqueness of God. Moses recalls Israel's exceptional encounters with God on Mount Horeb and in Egypt, declaring in v. 39 'there is no other'. Moses entreats the people to take to heart the all-encompassing realm of God and to keep God's 'statutes and commandments'.

Paul, beginning with the statement that those led by the Spirit are children of God, logically unfolds that relationship step by step, to reveal that we are joint heirs with Christ. In this short passage, Paul presents Father, Son and Spirit in relationship with believers, an important text for later development of the theology of the Trinity.

The Gospel contains the final verses of Matthew. The location – a mountain – immediately suggests a connection with the encounter with God mentioned in the first reading. The eleven are gathered to see the resurrected Jesus before he ascends. They are then sent out to baptise in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The inclusion of teaching all future disciples to 'obey everything I have commanded' also echoes the words of Moses. Jesus words, 'I am with you always' links these final words with the beginning of Matthew's Gospel and highlights the all-encompassing presence of God from the beginning, recalled in Deuteronomy, and for all believers in the future.

Dr Rosemary Canavan

THE SAVING WORD

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY / B

26 MAY 2024

FIRST READING

Deut 4: 32-34, 39-40

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

The Lord himself is God in heaven above and on earth below: there is no other.

Moses said to the people: 'Put this question to the ages that are past, that went before you, from the time God created man on earth: Was there ever a word so majestic, from one end of heaven to the other? Was anything ever heard? Did ever a people hear the voice of the living God speaking from the heart of the fire, as you heard it, and remain alive? Has any god ventured to take to himself one nation from the midst of another by ordeals, signs, wonders, war with mighty hand and outstretched arm, by fearsome terrors – all this that the Lord your God did for you before your eyes in Egypt?

'Understand this today, therefore, and take it to heart: The Lord is God indeed, in heaven above as on earth beneath, he and no other. Keep his laws and commandments as I give them to you today so that you and your children may prosper and live long in the land that the Lord your God gives you for ever.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 32: 4-6, 9, 18-20, 22. R. v. 12

R. Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.

1. The word of the Lord is faithful / and all his works to be trusted. / The Lord loves justice and right / and fills the earth with his love. R.

2. By his word the heavens were made, / by the breath of his mouth all the stars. / He spoke; and they came to be. / He commanded; they sprang into being. R.



3. The Lord looks on those who revere him, / on those who hope in his love, / to rescue their souls from death, / to keep them alive in famine. R.

4. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. / The Lord is our help and our shield. / May your love be upon us, O Lord, / as we place all our hope in you. R.

SECOND READING

Rom 8: 14-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

You have received the Spirit that makes you God's own children, and in that Spirit we call God: Father, our Father!

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and coheirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

■ The word of the Lord.

26 May 2024
Trinity Yr B

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: 9.00am Sun: 5pm

WEEKDAY MASSES Wed: 12 noon St Boniface Thurs: 9 am
Fri: 12 noon The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.00 pm
*Or by appointment

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.



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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Brian Burke, Noelene Turner, Paul Burton, Bishop Peter William Ingham (Wollongong), John Nash, Peter Newley, Colin MacPherson, Gary Donaldson.

ANNIVERSARIES: Sophie Littlejohns (2/5), Peg MacRae (4/5), Hugh O'Brien (18/5), Sandy Murray (22/5), John Varga (1/6).

DECEASED: Eva, Joe and Bill McLean, Mel and Harry Hutchens, Dalis O'Brien, Margaret Marshall, Sr Rita Vella, Barry Schipp.

SICK: Fr Anthony Koppman, Norma O'Brien, Christine Porters, Shane Davidson, Monica Austin, Terry Dean, Barbara Brennan, Graeme Bussell, John Betts, Kate Harrison, William Bonner, Maureen Harrison, Deacon Peter Harrison, Fr Bernard Flood.

VEENA'S VERSION:



A man stumbles through the bush, totally drunk. He sees a priest baptising people in the river so steps into the water, and bumps into the priest. The priest turns and is almost overcome by the smell of alcohol, and asks the man, "Are you ready to find Jesus?" The man shouts "Yes I am!" So the priest grabs him and dunks him in the water. He pulls him back and asks "Brother, have you found Jesus?" The man replies "No, I haven't." The priest, shocked, dunks him again but for a little longer. He pulls him out of the water and asks "Have you found Jesus brother?" The man answers no I haven't. By this time the preacher is at his wits end and dunks the man again - but this time holds him down for 30 seconds and when he begins kicking his arms and legs about he pulls him up and asks "For the love of God, have you found Jesus?!" The man staggers upright. Wipes his eyes, coughs up water, catches his breath and says to the priest- "Are you sure this is where Jesus fell in?".....

COMING EVENTS:

26 May National Sorry Day
27 May—2 June National Reconciliation Week
15 June REFLECTION DAY West Tamworth Parish Centre



National Reconciliation Day

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: BSB 082 105

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

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

"Never expect perfection, and bear quietly the defects that from time to time come under your notice" (1890)



VEENA'S UPDATE - FR ANTHONY'S LEAVE: Please keep Father Anthony in your prayers and pray for the return of his good health.

PARISH REFLECTION DAY: 15 June by Sister Maureen. Through the Desert God Leads us to Freedom. In Lent this year Pope Francis invited us to journey with God. During the day there will be the opportunity to reflect on the various deserts of our life and how we have experienced God leading us through them. *Pope Francis encourages us, "Lent is the season of grace in which the desert can become once more – in the words of the prophet Hosea, "the place of our first love". (cf. Hos 2:16-17). May this reflection day gift us with what God wants to give us;" a journey in freedom; a journey in intimacy and relationship."* (Fr. Andy Alexander, SJ)

60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: This weekend 26 May, our wonderful parishioners Mary and Jim Attard will celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary. Many of their family will be with us here at St Patrick's to celebrate this very special and blessed event. May God shine on their marriage for many years to come.

DE LA SALLE ARMIDALE REUNION: All Ex-students of De La Salle College Armidale are invited to a School Reunion to be held in Armidale on Saturday 26th October **THIS YEAR**, which is the 50th Anniversary of the closing of the College as we knew it. Very Importantly - in order to secure our booking at this early stage - we need to soon know NUMBERS coming! **IF** you (wife/partner also welcome) intend to come please send a "YES" email to dlscarmidale@yahoo.com. Limited seating. More information from Pete Stanley, Ph. 0401745406.

ABORIGINAL LANGUAGE TO BE USED FOR LITURGY: Australia's Catholic bishops have approved a liturgy which incorporates elements of Aboriginal language and culture. See more information at the ACBC website.

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION DAY: Reconciliation Prayer

Holy Father, God of Love, You are the Creator of all things.

We acknowledge the pain and shame of our history and the sufferings of Our peoples, and we ask your forgiveness. We thank you for the survival of Indigenous cultures.

Our hope is in you because you gave your Son Jesus to reconcile the world to you.

We pray for your strength and grace to forgive, accept and love one another, as you love us and forgive and accept us in the sacrifice of your Son.

Give us the courage to accept the realities of our history

so that we may build a better future for our Nation. Teach us to respect all cultures.

Teach us to care for our land and waters. Help us to share justly the resources of this land.

Help us to bring about spiritual and social change to improve the quality of life for all groups in our communities, especially the disadvantaged.

Help young people to find true dignity and self-esteem by your Spirit.

May your power and love be the foundations on which we build our families, our communities and our Nation, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

WEEK 5 ROSTER: 26/5/24

Vigil: R C Ledwos, D Bolitho
9am Sun: R J Ryan, G Clout
5.00pm Sun: R J Moloney T Mitchell
Counting Team R Paul, A Bowden
Fri Cleaning S Brown V Griffiths
Altar Linen: H Reid

WEEK 6 ROSTER: 2/6/24

Vigil: R N Pullman, G Styman
9am Sun: R D Gowing, A Sartori
5.00pm Sun: R A O'Halloran C Lavell
Counting Team G & M Thrift A Bowden
Fri Cleaning K O'Brien M Brown
Altar Linen: J Hutt

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.

