

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! / The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower; / all who come to him will live for ever. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 4: 26-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The mustard seed, the smallest of all the seeds, grows into the biggest shrub of all.

Jesus said to the crowds: 'This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time: he starts to reap because the harvest has come.'

He also said, 'What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.'

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

EXPLAINING THE UNEXPLAINABLE

How do we understand the kingdom or reign of God? The Gospel of today brings two examples and a word about understanding parables. This passage is preceded by Jesus telling the parable of the sower and explaining it to his disciples. We have the inside running on this as we hear and read what Jesus explains, for we too are disciples. Today's first example tells what the kingdom of God is like, continuing the theme of the sower. We see the imagery of the kingdom of God as something that is not static but growing. It takes time to flourish and bring a harvest. Those on the land know this is an ongoing process season to season, sowing and harvesting. The kingdom of God is like this, growing wherever it is planted and harvested.

Then Jesus asks, 'With what can we compare the kingdom of God or what parable will we use for it?' What follows expands further on the kingdom of God. It is like the smallest of seeds that will grow to become the greatest of shrubs giving shelter for further life and growth in its branches and shade.

It seems a mystery that Jesus used many parables like this to speak the word to them, 'but he explained everything in private to his disciples'. Jesus entices the crowd with images of what the kingdom of God is like. Jesus explains the meaning to those who believe. This echoes Paul's words in the second reading 'for we walk by faith, not by sight'. How would you explain the kingdom of God today?

Dr Rosemary Canavan



THE SAVING WORD

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

16 JUNE 2024

FIRST READING

Ezek 17: 22-24

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel

I have made the small tree great.

The Lord says this:

'From the top of the cedar,
from the highest branch I will take a shoot
and plant it myself on a very
high mountain.

I will plant it on the high mountain
of Israel.

It will sprout branches and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Every kind of bird will live beneath it,
every winged creature rest in the shade of its
branches.

And every tree of the field will learn that I,
the Lord, am the one

who stunts tall trees and makes the low
ones grow,

who withers green trees and makes the
withered green.

I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 91: 2-3, 13-16. R. cf. v. 2

R. Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord/
to make music to your name, O Most High,/to
proclaim your love in the morning/and
your truth in the watches of the night. R.

2. The just will flourish like the palm-tree/and
grow like a Lebanon cedar. R.

3. Planted in the house of the Lord/they will
flourish in the courts of our God,/still bearing
fruit when they are old,/still full of sap, still
green,/to proclaim that the Lord is just./
In him, my rock, there is no wrong. R.



SECOND READING

2 Cor 5: 6-10

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

*Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it,
we are intent on pleasing the Lord.*

We are always full of confidence when we
remember that to live in the body means to be
exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and
not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say,
and actually want to be exiled from the body
and make our home with the Lord. Whether
we are living in the body or exiled from it, we
are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth
about us will be brought out in the law court of
Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves
for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

■ The word of the Lord.

16 June 2024

Wk 11 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.

Office Hrs: Wed & Thurs 8.30-11.30 am

Administration Di Bolitho, Anne Bowden

Presbytery 67658211

Sacristan Elaine Smyth

Pastoral Associate 0411703608

School Principals Greg O'Toole and Maree Holland

St Josephs School 67654079

WEEKEND MASSES Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9.00am Sun: 5pm

WEEKDAY MASSES Wed: 12 noon Thurs: 9 am

Fri: 12 noon St Aloysius Gonzaga

CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.00 pm

*Or by appointment

ENTRANCE *O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help.*

ANTIPHON: *Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour!*

COMMUNION *There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek:*

ANTIPHON: *to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.*

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Brian Burke, Noeline Turner, Paul Burton.

ANNIVERSARIES: John Varga (1/6), Pat Smyth (7/6), Grant D'Elboux (21/6).

DECEASED: Bishop Peter William Ingham, John Nash, Peter Newley, Gary Donaldson, Colin MacPherson, Eva, Joe and Bill McLean, Mel and Harry Hutchens, Dalis O'Brien.

SICK: Bill Press, 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: COMING EVENTS:

Sister Mary, who worked for a home health agency, was making her rounds visiting homebound patients when she ran out of fuel. A filling station was only a block away, but the attendant said they had no fuel can for her to borrow. Sister Mary returned to her car to see if there was a fuel can in the trunk. There wasn't, but she found a bedpan. Being resourceful she took it to the station and asked the attendant to "fill er up". As she was pouring the fuel into her tank two men watched from across the road. One of them turned to the other and said, "if it starts I'm turning Catholic!"



COMING EVENTS:

15 June Reflection Day *CANCELLED*

16 June First Holy Communion

30 June Peter's Pence Collection

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: BSB 082 105

1st. Collection West Tamworth Presbytery (Diocesan collection)

Acc No: 001023642

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

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN THIS WEEKEND



"My gratitude to God for all that is done for those I love." (1867)



VEENA'S UPDATE - FR ANTHONY'S LEAVE: Please keep Father Anthony in your prayers and pray for the return of his good health. We look forward to his return to his parish home and the return of light duties albeit a long journey. Please also keep in your prayers Peter Harrison, our former Deacon who is also unwell. In the meantime we are very thankful for Fr McHugh for his pastoral care for our parish along with Fr Ross for his assistance with our Mass celebrations.

CANCELLED REFLECTION DAY:

A MESSAGE FROM SR MAUREEN: It was with regret that the reflection day planned for 15 June had to be cancelled. When my brother died on 24 May Sr Kathryn asked me about 15 June. Confidently I assured her that I would be available. What I didn't bargain for was being booked in, unexpectedly, for a medical procedure on Friday 7 June. Complications arose; it is a relief that I am on the path to healing. How sorry I am that the two dates for the reflection day had to be cancelled this year. Thank you for your understanding. Sr Maureen McDermott rsj

BAPTISMS: We pray for all those who have recently been baptised at St Patrick's. Please keep in your prayers Molly Anna Waters, Nicholas Gordon, Ryley Glass, and Giselle Unger. May they and their families be blessed at this special time for them, and throughout their lives in Christ.

PETERS PENCE COLLECTION: The 2024 collection is to be taken up on 30th June which is the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saints Peter & Paul. This collection goes to the Holy Sea for Holy Father's emergency relief efforts to aid victims of war and natural disasters.

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAM: Planned Giving Envelopes are now being prepared for the 2024/2025 financial year and will be available at the back of the church next weekend. If you would like to join planned giving either via Direct Debit or by weekly envelope, please contact the office for assistance.

PRAYER FOR OUR NEW BISHOP

God our Father, in Jesus, your Son, You have given to your Church the perfect model of priest, prophet and king, and so You have blessed us through His sacrifice, taught us through His Word, and guided us through His rule. We ask You, Father, to guide and enlighten those who will be tasked with helping to choose the next bishop of our diocese. May the person they choose be one of deep and true prayer, a person of a compassionate heart and firm resolve, and a person of joy and peace, who desires above all to do Your will. We entrust our prayers to our Patroness, Mary, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, and ask this through Jesus Christ Our Lord.
Amen

WEEK 2 ROSTER: 16/6/24

Vigil: R Sr Kathryn N Pullman
9am Sun: R S Brown A Sartori
5.00pm Sun: R A O'Halloran T Mitchell
Counting Team S Brown A Bowden
Fri Cleaning M Vella A Jones
Altar Linen: E Smyth

WEEK 3 ROSTER: 23/6/24

Vigil: R C Ledwos Di Bolitho
9am Sun: R M Holley A Sartori
5.00pm Sun: R J Parrenas J Parrenas
Counting Team P Shiels; A Bowden
Fri Cleaning S Brown V Griffiths
Altar Linen: H Reid

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.



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Minimum investment is \$1,000