

son of Joseph' they said. 'We know his father and mother. How can he now say, "I have come down from heaven"?' Jesus said in reply, 'Stop complaining to each other.

'No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me, and I will raise him up at the last day. It is written in the prophets: They will all be taught by God, and to hear the teaching of the Father, and learn from it, is to come to me. Not that anybody has seen the Father, except the one who comes from God: he has seen the Father. I tell you most solemnly, everybody who believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life.

Your fathers ate the manna in the desert and they are dead; but this is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that a man may eat it and not die. 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.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.



A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

THE LIVING BREAD

Today we continue the focus on the Bread from Heaven. In the first reading we see Elijah in the wilderness fleeing from Jezebel. He just wants to lay down and die but an angel of the Lord touches him twice repeating 'Get up and eat.' All there was to eat was a round flat loaf and water too, but it was enough for the 40 day/night journey to Horeb, the mountain of God. God provided food for the journey as previously in the desert with Moses.

In the continuation of the Bread of Heaven discourse in John's Gospel, we find the Judeans are complaining about Jesus' claim to be 'the bread that came down from heaven.' They are grumbling and complaining like the Israelites in the desert. Jesus responds recalling the scriptures (Isaiah 54:13) that it is God who teaches them. The 'Amen, Amen' saying, translated as 'I tell you most solemnly,' emphasises the truth and faithfulness of this saying. In John's Gospel the double Amen appears 25 times, always uttered by Jesus. In this important statement there is to be no doubt that Jesus is the 'bread of life.' He is the bread that comes down from heaven, the 'living bread.' The final sentence indicates not only that eating this bread means eternal life but that the bread that Jesus gives for the life of the world is his flesh. We readily understand this as his crucifixion. Beyond this the Judeans will complain further. As we hear these words let us contemplate the gift that Jesus gave us.

Dr Rosemary Canavan



NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

THE SAVING WORD

11 AUGUST 2024

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19: 4-8

A reading from the first book of Kings.

Strengthened by the food, he walked to the mountain of the Lord.

Elijah went into the wilderness, a day's journey, and sitting under a furze bush wished he were dead. 'Lord', he said 'I have had enough. Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down and went to sleep. But an angel touched him and said, 'Get up and eat.' He looked round, and there at his head was a scone baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again. But the angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat, or the journey will be too long for you.' So he got up and ate and drank, and strengthened by that food he walked for forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PS

Ps 33: 2-9. R. v. 9

R. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will bless the Lord at all times, / his praise always on my lips; / in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. / The humble shall hear and be glad. **R.**
2. Glorify the Lord with me. / Together let us praise his name. / I sought the Lord and he answered me; / from all my terrors he set me free. **R.**
3. Look towards him and be radiant; / let your faces not be abashed. / This poor man called; the Lord heard him / and rescued him from all his distress. **R.**
4. The angel of the Lord is encamped / around those who revere him, to rescue them. / Taste and see that the Lord is good. / He is happy who seeks refuge in him. **R.**



SECOND READING

Eph 4: 30-5: 2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians.

Walk in love, just as Christ.

Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God who has marked you with his seal for you to be set free when the day comes. Never have grudges against others, or lose your temper, or raise your voice to anybody, or call each other names, or allow any sort of spitefulness. Be friends with one another, and kind, forgiving each other as readily as God forgave you in Christ.

Try, then, to imitate God, as children of his that he loves, and follow Christ by loving as he loved you, giving himself up in our place as a fragrant offering and a sacrifice to God.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 6: 51

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

GOSPEL

Jn 6: 41-51

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

I am the living bread come down from heaven.

The Jews were complaining to each other about Jesus, because he had said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' 'Surely this is Jesus

11 Aug 2024
Wk 19 Yr B

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

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



Parish Administrator Fr Sabu Pulimalayil
Pastoral Associate: Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.
Office Administration Di Bolitho, Anne Bowden
Sacristan Elaine Smyth
School Principals Greg O'Toole & Maree Holland

Office Hrs: Wed & Thurs 8.30-11.30 am
Presbytery 67658211
Pastoral Associate 0411703608
St Josephs School 67654079

WEEKEND Sat: 5.30 pm **Sun:** 9am & 5pm

MASSES Mon: 9 am **Tues:** 9 am

WEEKDAY Wed: 12 pm St Maximilian Mary Kolbe

MASSES Thur: 9 am and 5.30 pm Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary
Fri: 12 pm

CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.00 pm
Before masses
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: O 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: Mary Camden, Tommy Hudson.

ANNIVERSARIES: Wally Warner(2/7), Lyn Slade(10/7), Peter Parsons(12/7), Frances Martin (12/7), Margaret O'Callaghan (12/7), Sheila McNamara(20/7), William Barry Davy(25/7), Heighton Betts (28/7), Tony Williams (31/7), Betty Hodgins (31/7), Margaret Parker (4/8), Jack Sampson (9/8), Barry Schipp (18/8).

DECEASED: Noeline Turner, Bishop Peter William Ingham, John Nash, Peter Newley, Gary Donaldson, Colin MacPherson.

SICK: Col Hassett, Judy Murphy, Elaine Murray, Thelma Gaff, Bill Press, 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

THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY

It is noted that St Mary MacKillop claimed the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (or Mother of God) as her favourite feast. The feast has its origins in Jerusalem before the end of the fourth century. The early Christians held Mary, the loving and courageous Jewish Mother of Jesus, as one of their own. They had prayed with Mary. Together they had received the gift of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Four centuries passed before the feast was adopted by Rome. Over a period of years theologians debated the questions: Was Jesus truly God and man? Was Mary conceived free from original sin? Theologians searched and prayed to come to a decision. Finally in 1854, Pope Pius XI defined the dogma of the immaculate conception of Mary the Mother of God

COMING EVENTS: 4-11 Aug: Vocations Awareness Week

15 Aug: Feast of Assumption. Holy Day of Obligation 9 am and 5.30 pm Mass

CHURCH COLLECTIONS: (BSB 082 105)

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

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

Nineteenth Week in Ordinary Time Year B

"God's love is too deep for words to express." (1870)



FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION: The Holy Day of Obligation recognising this important event in our faith, falls on Thursday 15 August. Mass will be held at St Patricks at 9 am and 5.30 pm. Other masses in Tamworth will be St Marys' North Tamworth 9 am; Mary Help of Christians at 10 am (school), and 6 pm; Nazareth Care 11 am; Tamworth Gardens 11.30 am, St Marie Therese Church, Kootingal 5.30 pm

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK is an annual week-long celebration dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life and to renewing our prayers and support for those who are discerning one of these vocations. This time in the Church's calendar coincides with the liturgical celebrations of the Australia's first saint, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop, and the Patron Saint of Priests, Saint John Vianney. This year, National Vocations Awareness Week is celebrated from 4 – 11 August. It belongs to the mission of the entire Church to "care for the birth, discernment and fostering of vocations, particularly those to the priesthood." (Pastores Dabo Vobis, n.34) During this week, we are invited to pray about how God is calling us to live out our vocations and how we may foster vocations in our communities.

RETIRED PRIESTS FUND AND GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY APPEAL: Thank you for your generous support of this appeal which raised \$636.70 last weekend.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP: Pilgrimage to be held 14—26 October 2024. More information will be provided later. A flyer is attached to the notice board at the back of the church or at <https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/retreats-spirituality/australian-national-pilgrimage/>

FATHER JOHN CURRAN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE OF PRIESTHOOD: A general invitation is extended to the friends of Father John Curran to celebrate a Mass with him at Saint Michael's Catholic Church Manilla Sat 24th August at 11am for his Golden Jubilee of Priesthood. Followed by lunch at Manilla Services Club (25 Court St). RSVP required for lunch by 9th August to Marie Flett on 0427 851 120.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

God our Father,

who wills that all men be saved and come to the knowledge of truth:

we beg you to send Labourers into your harvest.

Give to our young people the generosity necessary
to follow Your call and the courage required
to overcome all obstacles to their vocation.

Give to parents that faith, love and spirit of sacrifice
which will inspire them to offer their children
to God's service and to rejoice whenever

one of their children is called to the priesthood or religious life.

May Your example and that of Your Blessed Mother
and Saint Joseph encourage both young people
and parents and let Your grace sustain them. Amen.



WEEK 4 ROSTER: 11/8/24

Vigil: R P Bamford Sr Kathryn
9am Sun: R S Brown, M Donaldson
5.00pm Sun: R A O'Halloran C Lavell
Counting Team S Brown A Bowden
Fri Cleaning M Vella A Jones
Altar Linen: E Smyth

WEEK 5 ROSTER: 18/8/24

Vigil: R C Ledwos, D Bolitho
9am Sun: R J Ryan, G Clout
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.

