

they found him on the other side, they said to him, 'Rabbi, when did you come here?' Jesus answered:

'I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat.

Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you,

for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal.'

Then they said to him, 'What must we do if we are to do the works that God wants?' Jesus gave them this answer, 'This is working for God: you must believe in the one he has sent.' So they said, 'What sign will you give to show us that we should believe in you? What work will you do? Our fathers had manna to eat in the desert; as scripture says: He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'

Jesus answered:
'I tell you most solemnly, it was not Moses who gave you bread from heaven, it is my Father who gives you the bread from heaven, the true bread; for the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.'
'Sir,' they said 'give us that bread always.' Jesus answered:

'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never be hungry; he who believes in me will never thirst.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

BREAD OF LIFE

Our first reading today comes from the Book of Exodus where Moses and Aaron are confronted with grumbings of hunger from the Israelites in the desert. The Lord says to Moses 'I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day people shall go out and gather enough for that day.' True to God's word the Israelites found this bread, manna, 'like frost on the ground.' Moses confirmed 'It is the bread that the Lord has given you.'

Today's psalm reiterates God's generosity: 'The Lord gave them bread from heaven.' Both the Exodus passage and the psalm link to the Gospel of today from John – the first part of the discourse on the Bread from Heaven. Picking up from our Gospel last week, we find the crowd still pursuing Jesus who suggests they are looking for him because they ate their fill of loaves. Jesus advises them to seek 'the food that endures for eternal life.'

Understandably the crowd asks for both clarification and a sign, noting that their ancestors ate manna in the desert. Jesus points out that it was not Moses who provided manna, but God. We hear Jesus saying: 'For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' Will we respond like the crowd, saying 'give us this bread always'? Do we carry in our heart and our life the understanding of Jesus' words, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'

Dr Rosemary Canavan



THE SAVING WORD

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

4 AUGUST 2024

FIRST READING

Ex 16: 2-4, 12-15

A reading from the book of Exodus.

I will rain bread from heaven upon you.

The whole community of the sons of Israel began to complain against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness and said to them, 'Why did we not die at the Lord's hand in the land of Egypt, when we were able to sit down to pans of meat and could eat bread to our heart's content! As it is, you have brought us to this wilderness to starve this whole company to death!'

Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Now I will rain down bread for you from the heavens. Each day the people are to go out and gather the day's portion; I propose to test them in this way to see whether they will follow my law or not.'

'I have heard the complaints of the sons of Israel. Say this to them, "Between the two evenings you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have bread to your heart's content. Then you will learn that I, the Lord, am your God." ' And so it came about: quails flew up in the evening, and they covered the camp; in the morning there was a coating of dew all round the camp. When the coating of dew lifted, there on the surface of the desert was a thing delicate, powdery, as fine as hoarfrost on the ground. When they saw this, the sons of Israel said to one another, 'What is that?' not knowing what it was. 'That' said Moses to them 'is the bread the Lord gives you to eat.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 77: 3-4, 23-25, 54. R. v. 24

R. The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

1. The things we have heard and understood, / the things our fathers have told us, / we will tell to the next generation: / the glories of the Lord and his might. **R.**
2. He commanded the clouds above / and opened the gates of heaven. / He rained down manna for their food, / and gave them bread from heaven. **R.**



3. Mere men ate the bread of angels. / He sent them abundance of food. / He brought them to his holy land, / to the mountain which his right hand had won. **R.**

SECOND READING

Eph 4: 17, 20-24

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

Put on the new person that has been created in God's image.

I want to urge you in the name of the Lord, not to go on living the aimless kind of life that pagans live. Now that is hardly the way you have learnt from Christ, unless you failed to hear him properly when you were taught what the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life; you must put aside your old self, which gets corrupted by following illusory desires. Your mind must be renewed by a spiritual revolution so that you can put on the new self that has been created in God's way, in the goodness and holiness of the truth.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 4: 4

Alleluia, alleluia! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 6: 24-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Whoever comes to me will never be hungry; whoever believes in me will never thirst.

When the people saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into boats and crossed to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When

4 Aug 2024

Wk 18 Yr B

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrikswesttamworthparish.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: 5.30pm **Sun:** 9am & 5pm

MASSES

WEEKDAY Mon: 9 am **Tues:** 9 am The Transfiguration

MASSES Wed: 12pm **Thur:** 9am St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

Fri: 12pm

CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.00 pm

Before masses

or by appointment

ENTRANCE O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me!

ANTIPHON: You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

COMMUNION You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven,

ANTIPHON: endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Tommy Hudson, Michael Blanch (Armidale).

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), Margaret Parker (4/8), Jack Sampson (9/8).

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, 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

WELCOME: *We extend a very warm welcome to Fr Sabu Pulimalayil as he comes to us as our Parish Administrator. We pray he will find his new home blessed with the ever-present faithful and pastoral spirit of St Patricks.*

welcome

COMING EVENTS:

4 Aug: *Priest Retirement Fund & Good Shepherd Sunday Appeal. Please come prepared.

4-11 Aug: Vocations Awareness Week

8 Aug: Feast Day of St Mary MacKillop and reflection in the Parish Centre after 9 am mass.

15 Aug: Feast of Assumption

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

Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time Year B

"Patience and God will reward you all the more in the end." (1874)

RETIRED PRIESTS FUND AND GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY APPEAL: Today a collection will be taken up for this important cause. Please see envelopes on the seats in the church for your donation. These funds go to supporting retired priests and seminarians currently preparing for the priesthood.

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK will be celebrated in Australia during the week of 4 to 11 August, 2024. Please ask Our Lord for more dedicated, holy priests, deacons, and consecrated men and women. May they be inspired by Jesus Christ, supported by our faith community, and respond generously to God's gift of vocation.

FEAST DAY OF ST MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP: Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Thursday 8th August. Josephite Companions and Parishioners are invited to attend 9am Mass at St Patricks Church followed by a short reflection and morning tea in adjoining Parish Centre. Please bring a plate if you can and join us for this special feast day.



FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION: The Holy Day of Obligation recognizing this important event in our faith, falls on Thursday 15 August.

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.

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" to dlsarmidale@yahoo.com. Limited seating. More information Pete Stanley, Ph. 0401745406.

CONFESSIONS: Please Note * In addition to Saturday times, Fr Sabu will hear confessions before each mass, or by appointment.

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 3 ROSTER: 4/8/24

Vigil: R C Ledwos Di Bolitho
9am Sun: R M Holley R Paull
5.00pm Sun: R J Parrenas J Parrenas
Counting Team P Shiels A Bowden
Fri Cleaning J Hutt J Moran
Altar Linen: M Vella

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

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.

