

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off.

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

'THE LITTLE ONES'

You may recall from last week's passage from the Gospel of Mark that Jesus placed a child among them. The child exemplifies others who believe in Jesus and are open and receptive to learning more. In today's passage, among a series of instructions, we hear of 'these little ones who believe in me.' The instruction is a continuation of the teaching to the failing disciples about how to receive Jesus.

John, who is one of the leadership group of the Twelve, addresses Jesus as 'teacher' and asks a question that reveals his own misunderstanding. Having seen someone casting out demons in Jesus' name, he says 'we tried to stop him, because *he was not following us.*' Jesus responds to refocus them to him. Their proclamation of the good news is not about gaining followers of the Twelve but inviting followers of Jesus. In this context the further instruction of not putting stumbling blocks in front of 'the little ones who believe' makes more sense.

The language that follows seems strange to us, yet the negatives are graphically pointing to the real goal of entering the fullness of life in the kingdom of God. This is the reward for all who might offer even a cup of water to one in need. As we reflect on the readings today, take time to think who 'the little ones who believe' are among us. How do we see our role in encouraging others to join us as disciples and servants of Jesus, and acting in his name?

Dr Rosemary Canavan



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

29 SEPTEMBER 2024

FIRST READING

Num 11:25-29

A reading from the book of Numbers.

Are you jealous on my account? Who decrees that all people may prophesy?

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 18:8, 10, 12-14. R. v. 9

R. The precepts of the Lord give joy to the heart.

1. The law of the Lord is perfect, / it revives the soul. / The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, / it gives wisdom to the simple. **R.**
2. The fear of the Lord is holy, / abiding for ever. / The decrees of the Lord are truth / and all of them just. **R.**
3. So in them your servant finds instruction; / great reward is in their keeping. / But who can detect all his errors? / From hidden faults acquit me. **R.**
4. From presumption restrain your servant / and let it not rule me. / Then shall I be blameless, / clean from grave sin. **R.**



SECOND READING

James 5:1-6

A reading from the letter of St James.

Your wealth is rotting.

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 17:17

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your word, O Lord, is truth: make us holy in the truth. Alleluia!

29 Sept 2024

Wk 26 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 HOURS:
 Tues & Wed 9.30-11.30
 Thurs 10.00 am—12.00 noon

Presbytery 67658211
Pastoral Associate 0411703608
St Josephs School 67654079

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

MASSES

Mon: 9am St Jerome

WEEKDAY Wed 12pm The Holy Guardian Angels Thur: 9am

MASSES Fri: 12pm St Francis of Assisi

CONFESSIONS

* Sat: 4.30-5.00pm

* Before every Mass

* By appointment

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

COMMUNION

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Deacon Peter Harrison, John Sweeney, George Hurn.

ANNIVERSARIES: Matthew Moloney (9/9), Frank Koppman (20/9), Mary Betts (24/9), Barbara Scott (25/9), Gordon Press.

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care, Mary Camden, Tommy Hudson.

SICK: Cheryl Moloney, Daphne Sweeney (Sr Kathryn's mum), 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, Fr Bernard Flood.

God, Almighty Father, we are your pilgrim Church journeying towards the Kingdom of heaven.

We live in our homeland, but as if we were foreigners.

Every foreign place is our home, yet every native land is foreign to us.

Though we live on earth, our true citizenship is in heaven.

Do not let us become possessive of the portion of the world you have given us as a temporary home.

Help us to keep walking, together with our migrant brothers and sisters, towards the eternal dwelling you have prepared for us.

Open our eyes and our hearts so that every encounter with those in need becomes an encounter with Jesus, your Son and our Lord.

Amen

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

COMING EVENTS:

Oct 7 Solemnity of Our Lady of the Rosary (Diocesan Patroness)

Oct 12 Garage Sale

Oct 18 Rosary Procession -Nazareth House



Twenty-sixth Week in Ordinary Time Year B

Migrant and Refugee Sunday

WELCOME TO ALL THOSE PEOPLE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.



"I do not know how to describe the feeling, but that I was intensely happy and felt nearer to God than I had ever felt before." (1873)

110TH WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES – THIS SUNDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER 2024:

The theme of Pope Francis' Message for this year's World Day of Migrants and Refugees is "GOD WALKS WITH HIS PEOPLE." The Australian Catholic Migrant and Refugee Office has created online resources, including the liturgy for primary and secondary schools, homily notes, prayers of intercession, stories, and interviews, to help celebrate this special day.

Resources available at: <https://acmro.catholic.org.au/wdmr/2024>

DEACON PETER HARRISON'S FUNERAL: Concelebrated Requiem Mass for the eternal repose of the soul of the Late Rev. Deacon Peter John Harrison will be offered in **St. Patrick's commencing at 11.00am, Tuesday, 1st October, 2024.** Livestream can be seen at <https://youtube.com/live/TJwGhoM4Lhs?feature=share> *NOTE NO 9 AM MASS ON TUESDAY.

MASSIVE GARAGE SALE: A parish garage sale is to be held Saturday 12 Oct. at 10am to clear unused items from the parish. Please let Fr Sabu or the office know if you can help on the day and if you have interest in any items and unable to attend on that date.

JOSEPHITE CALENDARS 2025: \$10 EACH. Please place your order on the sheet provided at the back of the church. Orders to be in by end October. Payment on delivery in November. Enquiries Cheryl Lavell 0402 124 333.

CALLING FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR A DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE: Pilgrimage to Rome is an integral part of the Universal Church's Jubilee Year to be celebrated across 2025. The Diocese of Armidale is exploring the opportunity of organising a pilgrimage and seeks expressions of interest at this time. Pilgrims worldwide journey to Rome during the Jubilee Year. The pilgrimage is a profound spiritual experience, allowing participants to reflect on their lives, seek forgiveness, and strengthen their faith. More information on the Jubilee Year 2025 can be found at jubilaum2025.va. To express an interest in joining the pilgrimage please email Fr Damien Locke at FrD-Locke@armidale.catholic.org.au.



GO AND INVITE EVERYONE
to the banquet

In Mongolia, vulnerable people requiring social services often face stigma for using them. Those in need are often impacted by domestic violence or homelessness. Unfortunately, support services are limited in number and the demand for them is growing.

This means some of our brothers and sisters in Mongolia are going without the help they need.

This month, we invite you to support the Church in Mongolia on their journey to provide more support for vulnerable people in need. Your kindness will ensure that more of our brothers and sisters can receive the assistance they need to get back on their feet.



Freecall: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mongolia



WEEK 5 ROSTER: 29/9/24

Vigil: R C Ledwos, D Bolitho
9am Sun: R J Ryan, G Clout
5.00pm Sun: R J Moloney C Lavell
Counting Team O & J Whale, A Bowden
Fri Cleaning J Hutt J Moran
Altar Linen: M Vella

WEEK 6 ROSTER: 6/10/24

Vigil: R N Pullman, G Styman
9am Sun: R D Gowing, 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

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.

