

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom

and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Mk 7:31-37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha,' that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

GOD WILL COME AND SAVE YOU

A myriad of images unfold God's restoration in Isaiah: God will come and save you. These images speak of restoration to wholeness both to people with impairments of sight, hearing or speech, and to a natural world ravaged by drought.

This sounds like the Good News of God's salvation in the Gospels. As we hear from Mark, Jesus returns to Galilee, healing a man described as deaf and with an impediment to his speech. It is 'they' who brought the man to Jesus, beseeching him to lay his hand on him. Previously we have seen Jesus reach out his hand to touch and heal a leper and to ask the man with the withered hand to stretch it out to be healed. In this instance, Jesus is reported to take the man aside in private, that is, 'away from the crowd'. We see Jesus touch him, putting his fingers in his ears and on his tongue as well as looking up to heaven in a gesture of prayer to God saying 'Ephphatha' – be opened.

The healing is instantaneous giving an impetus to the whole narrative, moving it forward towards the Passion. The people who witness this are filled with unbounded amazement. Even though urged not to tell anyone, they do so more and more. They acclaim Jesus in words akin to those we heard from Isaiah of the salvation of God. This public acclamation points to recognition of who Jesus is, a question Jesus will pose to the disciples.

Dr Rosemary Canavan



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

8 SEPTEMBER 2024

FIRST READING

Isa 35:4-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of the dumb speak.

Say to all faint hearts,
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

'Look, your God is coming,
vengeance is coming,
the retribution of God;
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
the ears of the deaf unsealed,
then the lame shall leap like a deer
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,
streams in the wasteland,
the scorched earth becomes a lake,
the parched land springs of water.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 145:7-10. R. v. 1

R. Praise the Lord, my soul! (or Alleluia!)

1. It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever, /
who is just to those who are oppressed. / It is
he who gives bread to the hungry, / the Lord,
who sets prisoners free. R.

2. It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, /
who raises up those who are bowed down, /
the Lord who loves the just, / the Lord, who
protects the stranger. R.

3. The Lord upholds the widow and orphan, /
but thwarts the path of the wicked. / The Lord
will reign for ever, / Zion's God, from age
to age. R.



SECOND READING

James 2:1-5

A reading from the letter of St James.

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the kingdom?

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats;' then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

■ The word of the Lord.

8 Sept 2024

Wk 23 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: Tues & Wed 9.30-11.30

Thurs 10.00 am—12.00 noon

Presbytery 67658211

Pastoral Associate 0411703608

St Josephs School 67654079

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

WEEKDAY MASSES Mon: 9am Tues: 9 am Wed 12 noon

Thur: 9am Fri: 12 noon St John Chrysostom

CONFESSIONS

Sat: 4.30-5.00 pm and
before every Mass
or by appointment

ENTRANCE ANTIPTON: *You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.*

COMMUNION ANTIPTON: *Like the deer that years for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.*

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: John Sweeney, George Hurn, Mary Camden, Tommy Hudson.

ANNIVERSARIES: Tony Williams (31/7), Margaret Parker (4/8), Jack Sampson (9/8), Barry Schipp (18/8), Susan Tan Dy (24/8), Greg Gallagher (30/8).

DECEASED: We remember all our fathers now in God's care, Noeline Turner, Bishop Peter William Ingham, John Nash, Peter Newley, Gary Donaldson, Colin MacPherson, .

SICK: 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, Deacon Peter Harrison, Fr Bernard Flood.

PRAYER TO BE OPEN TO GOD

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your immense love for me. I ask You for the grace to open my heart and receive Your love more and more each day. Please reveal to me any unhealed hurts or wounds within me that are impacting my full receptivity to the Love You offer me freely at every moment.

Please guide me to see more clearly the obstacles I create and the ways that I deflect Your love.

Be with me Lord. I give You permission to restore my heart in You. Even though that may mean facing past hurts, I know I face them with You, strongly enfolded in Your healing embrace.

I invite You Lord Jesus, to work in me each day through Your Holy Spirit.

Guide me to rid myself of judgments, resentments, unforgiveness, bitterness, prejudices, cynicism and fear.

I desire to bring Your healing love to others, and I know that to do so effectively, I need to first experience

Your healing love myself. Conform my heart to Your Heart, Lord! Purge and purify my heart!

Steady me by Your grace and guide me further along the pathway of Heavenly perfection in You.

I pray in Jesus' name, 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:

11 Sep Anointing Mass

28 Sep Migrant and Refugee Sunday

19 Sept Feast Day of Our Lady of La Salette

Twenty-third Week in Ordinary Time Year B

"Bear with and help one another." (1881)



SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY: Today is safeguarding Sunday. The Parish of St Patricks and the Diocese of Armidale are committed to the care, wellbeing and protection of children, young people and people at risk in our community. Mindful of the theme for National Child Protection Week, may we work to create safe spaces where we can have meaningful conversations with children and adults at risk about their safety. You can find out more about the Church's work in this area at:

<https://www.catholic.au/s/article/Safeguarding-Sunday-2024>

FIRST RECONCILIATION: We congratulate the children who made their First Reconciliation last week. We pray that this sacrament will form an ongoing part of their catholic lives.

CALL FOR CHOIR MEMBERS: This is a request to all parishioners who to love to sing. We are trying to boost our choir numbers for the 9 am and 5 pm Sunday masses. Please, we would love to have you as our next member. We are very approachable or if you rather find out more phone Bruce on 0416 800872 or Margaret on 0448 553040.

ANointing MASS: Fr Sabu will be holding the next Anointing of the Sick Mass on Wednesday 11 September at 12 noon. Please share this information with all those you may know who would like to receive this special blessing.

EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION: Will be held on the First Friday of every month at 11.30 am before 12 noon mass. The first exposition and benediction will be held on 6 September.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARY MACKILLOP: Pilgrimage to be held 14-26 October 2024. Mary MacKillop Place invites you to The National Pilgrimage, "In the Footsteps of Mary MacKillop" tracing the path of the Australian trailblazer, Mary MacKillop. This pilgrimage invites you to explore sacred sites integral to her inspiring story. Witness first-hand how her legacy continues to thrive both in Australia and overseas. Reserve your spot today and be part of a pilgrimage resonating with the spirit of compassion, courage, and faith. "Never see a need without doing something about it." A flyer is on the notice board at the back of the church or

<https://www.marymackillopplace.org.au/retreats-spirituality/australian-national-pilgrimage/>

CATHOLIC WEEKLY

SHROUD OF TURIN: Leading Australian researcher says science has proved authenticity. Pg 3



WEEK 2 ROSTER: 8/9/24

Vigil: R P Bamford N Pullman
9am Sun: R S Brown J Woodbridge
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: 15/9/24

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 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.

