

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

What God has joined together, no one must divide.

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were testing him. He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' 'Moses allowed us' they said 'to draw up a writ of dismissal and so to divorce.' Then Jesus said to them, 'It was because you were so unteachable that he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation God made them male and female. This is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. They are no longer two, therefore, but one body. So then, what God has united, man must not divide.' Back in the house the disciples questioned him again about this, and he said to them, 'The man who divorces his wife and marries another is guilty of adultery against her. And if a woman divorces her husband and marries another she is guilty of adultery too.'

People were bringing little children to him, for him to touch them. The disciples turned them away, but when Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. I tell you solemnly, anyone who does not welcome the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' Then he put his arms round them, laid his hands on them and gave them his blessing.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Shorter form: 10:1-12

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

‘LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME’

Today's Gospel has three scenes. The first brings a challenge to Jesus from the religious leaders who 'came to test him'. Their question is politically, socially and religiously loaded. We recognise this as like today's investigative journalism. We observe the skill of politicians, religious leaders and spokespeople taking the measure of the challenge and deciding how to deal with it. The question here is, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' Jesus recognises the challenge that is one sided, complex and about the law. Jesus' reply is a question 'What did Moses command?' He has engaged the challenge but put the ball back in their court. The answer is given still from a single perspective of the male. Jesus then delivers his parting shot, implying that this commandment was given because of 'hardness of heart' and then quotes from scripture of God's intention in creating male and female. To this there is no further response from the religious leaders: they are silenced.

The scene moves into the house with the disciples where they pursue the question. Jesus answers deliberately for both men and women. The scene changes quickly to people bringing children to Jesus and the disciples turning them away. Jesus' words 'Let the children come to me' gives space for another 'Amen' or 'Truly' saying that is not just about this most recent challenge but connected to our two previous weeks: allowing those who are open and receptive to the message of Jesus to come to him. Where is our receptivity – in listening and openness or in challenge and rebuke?

Dr Rosemary Canavan



THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

6 OCTOBER 2024

FIRST READING

Gen 2:18-24

A reading from the book of Genesis.

They were two in one flesh.

The Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone. I will make him a helpmate.' So from the soil the Lord God fashioned all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These he brought to the man to see what he would call them; each one was to bear the name the man would give it. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate suitable for man was found for him. So the Lord God made the man fall into a deep sleep. And while he slept, he took one of his ribs and enclosed it in flesh. The Lord built the rib he had taken from the man into a woman, and brought her to the man. The man exclaimed:

'This at last is bone from my bones,
and flesh from my flesh!
This is to be called woman,
for this was taken from man.'

This is why a man leaves his father and mother and joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 127. R. v. 5

R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

1. O blessed are those who fear the Lord / and walk in his ways! / By the labour of your hands you shall eat. / You will be happy and prosper. **R.**
2. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine / in the heart of your house; / your children like shoots of the olive, / around your table. **R.**
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed / the man who fears the Lord. / May the Lord bless you from Zion / in a happy Jerusalem / all the days of your life! / May you see your children's children. / On Israel, peace! **R.**



SECOND READING

Heb 2:9-11

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

He who sanctifies and those who are sanctified have the same origin.

We see in Jesus one who was for a short while made lower than the angels and is now crowned with glory and splendour because he submitted to death; by God's grace he had to experience death for all mankind.

As it was his purpose to bring a great many of his sons into glory, it was appropriate that God, for whom everything exists and through whom everything exists, should make perfect, through suffering, the leader who would take them to their salvation. For the one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock; that is why he openly calls them brothers.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Jn 4:12

Alleluia, alleluia!
If we love one another,
God will live in us in perfect love.
Alleluia!

6 Oct 2024

Wk 27 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
MASSSES

WEEKDAY Mon: 9am Our Lady of the Rosary Tues: 9am
MASSSES Wed 12pm Thur: 9am Fri: 12pm



CONFESSIONS

* Sat: 4.30-5.00pm
 * Before every Mass
 * By appointment

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: *Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord.*

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: *The Lord is good to those who hope in Him, to the souls that seek Him.*

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Deacon Peter Harrison, Sheila Tilse, Susan Tan Dy.

ANNIVERSARIES: Warren Doherty (6/10), Ned Clarke (12/10), Daphne Davis (12/10), Bill Teo (29/10).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care, William Grima, 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.

OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY: Saint Pius V established the feast of Our Lady of Victory to thank God for the Christian defeat of the Turks at Lepanto - a victory attributed to praying the rosary. Pope Gregory XIII changed the name to Feast of the Holy Rosary—originally celebrated on the first Sunday in October—in 1573. During her apparitions at Fatima, Our Lady emphasized the importance of prayer and penance in order to bring about peace in the world. She asked the *children* to pray the rosary daily, and promised that this devotion would bring about an end to World War I, which was raging at the time. (According to Lúcia): The message of Our Lady of peace, mercy and supplication was: 'Pray the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world and for the end of the war'.



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-seventh Week in Ordinary Time Year B WELCOME TO ALL THOSE PEOPLE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.



"Courage dear child, and do not yield to sadness." (1898)

MASSIVE GARAGE SALE: A huge thank you to the wonderful volunteers who helped move, clean and sort the items for the garage sale last Saturday. Your efforts are very much appreciated. The parish garage sale will 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 that day and if you have interest in any items and are unable to attend on that date.

PRAYER FOR PEACE: The Australian Catholic Bishops' Conference have announced a call throughout each Diocese for a "day of prayer for Peace" on Monday 7th October, the memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary. Archbishop Coleridge indicated that the call for prayers for Peace have come from many quarters near and far (the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem and Bishop Antoine-Charbel Tarabay). A Rosary or a decade of the Rosary for Peace to be said on 7th October is a suitable suggestion.

THANK YOU FROM SR KATHRYN to Fr Sabu and St Patricks parishioners for their prayers, care and concern during my mother's serious illness. She is slowly recovering in respite care.

OCTOBER IS OUR LADY'S MONTH: During October, and throughout the year, the Rosary is said by parishioners before every mass. Everyone is very welcome to join in and perhaps a special effort can be made during this special month of October.

SYDNEY TO HOST INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS 2028: The Vatican has announced that Sydney will host the 54th International Eucharistic Congress in 2028. Held every four years, the International Eucharistic Congress is expected to draw tens of thousands of faithful Catholics from across the globe to Sydney. Catholic Archbishop of Sydney Most Rev. Anthony Fisher OP said that this will be the largest gathering held on Australian shores since World Youth Day 2008. "It is my hope that in hosting the International Eucharistic Congress we might renew the sense of solemnity, mystery, welcome and joy in the liturgical life of our city, revitalise our Christian lives, and increase our outreach to those most in need," Archbishop Fisher said. Keep this wonderful event in your prayers for 2028.



In the harsh Mongolian winter, where temperatures can dip to minus 40 degrees Celsius, survival is often difficult. In two weeks, we'll share with you the story of Chuluunbaatar, who faces the realities of homelessness on a daily basis. You'll learn how your generous support will help with essential services to people in need like Chuluunbaatar.

You have the opportunity to partner with this life-giving work, as your prayers and support are crucial in ensuring this program can move forward.



Free call: 1800 257 296
catholicmission.org.au/mongolia



WEEK 6 ROSTER: 6/10/24

Vigil: R Sr Kathryn, 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

WEEK 1 ROSTER: 13/10/24

Vigil: R C Ledwos Sr Kathryn
9am Sun: R S Nichols A Sartori
5.00pm Sun: R J Moloney C Lavell
Counting Team O & J Whale 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.

