

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*He shall gather his elect from the four winds.*

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you, when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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# Breaking Open the Word

## TIMES OF GREAT DISTRESS

The time we live in could be described as a time of great distress. News of wars, destruction, floods, fires and so much more assail us. There are still some who stand on street corners with a sign proclaiming, 'The End Is Nigh'. Still others raise alarms on websites and social media. Our first reading today, taken from the last chapter of Daniel, presents Michael the Archangel warning of the end, of a time of great distress. He recounts the resurrection of the dead where those sleeping in the dust will be separated: some will be awakened 'to everlasting life' and others 'to shame and everlasting contempt'.

Paralleling this, in the Gospel of today, Jesus speaks to his disciples as his Passion looms. He speaks in apocalyptic, end-times, language of 'a time of distress' when the lights in the sky will fall. These events hail the coming of the Son of Man who will gather his chosen. This is the hope of what will come beyond the trials and crucifixion of Jesus, an assurance of God's presence echoed in Jesus' words, 'Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away'.

In days of distress we, like the disciples, can hear Jesus' words, the Good News, if we remain faithful. The emphasis is not on what will pass away but on the saving grace of God who has sent his son, Jesus, and will raise him for the salvation of all. The end is not the end for those awakened to everlasting life.

Dr Rosemary Canavan



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

17 NOVEMBER 2024

## FIRST READING

Dan 12:1-13

A reading from the prophet Daniel

*When that time comes your own people will be spared.*

'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 15:5, 8-11

**R.** Keep me safe, O God; you are my hope.

1. O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; / it is you yourself who are my prize. / I keep the Lord ever in my sight: / since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

2. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; / even my body shall rest in safety. / For you will not leave my soul among the dead, / nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

3. You will show me the path of life, / the fullness of joy in your presence, / at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Heb 10:11-14, 18

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*By a single offering he has achieved the eternal perfection of those who are sanctified.*

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices



which are quite incapable of taking sins away. Christ, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place for ever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 21:36

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful, pray constantly, that you may be worthy to stand before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

17 Nov 2024  
Wk 33 Yr B

## WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

**Website:** <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>  
**Email:** [westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto: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**  
Pastoral Associate  
St Josephs School

67658211  
0411703608  
67654079

**WEEKEND MASSES** Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am & 5pm  
**WEEKDAY MASSES** NO WEEKDAY MASSES Monday to Thursday  
Fri: 12 noon

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

**ENTRANCE** *The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.*

**ANTIPHON:** *You will call upon me, and I will answer you,  
and I will lead back your captives from every place.*

**COMMUNION**  
**ANTIPHON:** *To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.*

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Vivienne Pullman, Hannah Press, Col Hassett, Rocco Cavallaro, John Petch, Maree Petch, Jack Smyth.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Margaret Mary Blake (1/11), Mary McInnes (6/11), Stuart Betts (13/11), Ian MacPherson (30/11) Perce McInnes (1/12), John Paul Vella 4/12), Rod Kelly (20/1), Lawrence Vella (23/1).

**DECEASED:** We pray for our loved ones now in God's care, Joy O'Shea, Deacon Peter Harrison, Sheila Tilse, George Hurn, Eva, Joe and Bill McLean, Mel and Harry Hutchens.

**SICK:** Marie Southwell, Cheryl Moloney, Daphne Sweeney (Sr Kathryn's mum), 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.

### REFLECTION ON MARK'S GOSPEL

*Lord, sometimes our minds wonder what it will be like for us at the end of this life. How will it happen, is there something after this world! But you have told us that you go to prepare a place for us where you are... Lord I believe, help my unbelief.*

[\(https://sacredspace.com/scripture/mark-1324-32/\)](https://sacredspace.com/scripture/mark-1324-32/)

### 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:

**26 Nov** Advent Reflection with Fr Sabu and cuppa  
**18 Dec** Anointing Mass

**17 Dec** Christmas Lunch - please register  
**19 Dec** Reconciliation



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

*"May God teach us all patience and the prudence we require." (1879)*



**NOVEMBER MASSES:** Please use envelopes to make requests for November Masses for those deceased members of your family and/or friends with their names written very clearly. Thanks.

**CLERGY RETREAT:** All clergy in Tamworth will be at the Clergy Retreat this week. Liturgy of the Word will be held Monday through to Friday at St Nicholas Church at 9am

**NEW PA SYSTEM:** We have the new sound system ! A huge thank you and deep appreciation is expressed for all those who have contributed to St Patricks to help with this project and to those who have given feedback on how it is working for them. Should anyone still wish to donate towards the project your offers will be very gratefully accepted as will your feedback on the sound.

**CLAIM THE DATES:** Advent Reflection 10 am Tues 26 Nov. with Fr Sabu in the Parish Centre, with cuppa to follow. Anointing Mass to be held on Wednesday 18 December at 12 noon and Reconciliation Thursday 19 December at 5.30 pm. 38 days till Christmas this Sunday.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION** will be held on Tuesday 17 December for lunch at Calala Inn. If you would like to join with other parishioners please list your name and contact details on the sheet at the back of the church before **1 December**.

**ADVENT PREPARATION:** At the end of a year there is always much to do. If you are away over the Christmas period and unable to fulfil your volunteer commitments could you please notify the parish of your dates of unavailability so rosters may be prepared accordingly. Thank you.

**IMMACULATA MISSION SCHOOL JANUARY 2025: What is it?** A wonderful opportunity to go deeper in faith through fantastic Catholic speakers, daily Mass, Adoration and times of prayer, share groups, fun activities, friendship and lots more. The theme is "Mercy" - join us and go deeper in God's love! **When is it?** 1-10 Jan for youth and young adults (14 years and up); 8-10 Jan for married couples (including children's ministry) **Where is it?** Armidale, NSW **Registrations close 15th Dec, early bird price finishes 30th Nov.** [www.immaculata.org.au/ims](http://www.immaculata.org.au/ims)

### 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 6 ROSTER: 17/11/24

**Vigil:** R N Pullman, G Styman  
**9am Sun:** R D Gowing, A Sartori  
**5.00pm Sun:** R A O'Halloran T Mitchell  
**Counting Team** G & M Thrift, A Bowden  
**Fri Cleaning** M Brown K O'Brien  
**Altar Linen:** J Hutt

### WEEK 6 ROSTER: 17/11/24

**Vigil:** R N Pullman, D Bolitho  
**9am Sun:** R D Gowing, A Sartori  
**5.00pm Sun:** R A O'Halloran T Mitchell  
**Counting Team** S Brown, A Bowden  
**Fri Cleaning** J Hutt J Moran  
**Altar Linen:** M Vella

*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.*

