

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

*This is the first commandment, and the second is similar to it.*

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.



#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# Breaking Open the Word

## 'LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD'

Have you seen a touch plate, a *mezuzah*, on the door frame of a Jewish house or business, and at the entrance to interior rooms? Maybe you have seen the ritual of touching this when entering any of the rooms. Inside the *mezuzah* is a tiny scroll of parchment inscribed with verses from Deuteronomy 6:4-9 and 11:13-21. These verses contain the words of the *Shema* prayer and the command to 'inscribe them on the doorposts of your house'. In this ritual act of touching, the words of the prayer are brought to mind and heart.

Our first reading today contains these verses from the *Shema* prayer: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.' It is a reminder of the covenant with God. In today's Gospel we hear these words again when Jesus is asked what is the greatest of the commandments: 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Then Jesus adds a second 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' All of the commandments are summarised in these two. These words were received well by the questioner and Jesus responds, 'you are not far from the kingdom of God'. As we take the words of these two commandments to heart, recalling them and living them, we too can hear Jesus say to us, 'you are not far from the kingdom of God'.

Dr Rosemary Canavan



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / B

3 NOVEMBER 2024

## FIRST READING

Deut 6:2-6

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

*Hear Israel, you shall love the Lord with all your heart.*

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESPONSORIAL PS

Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51. R. v. 2

**R.** I love you, Lord, my strength.

1. I love you, Lord, my strength, / my rock, my fortress, my saviour. / My God is the rock where I take refuge; / my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold. / The Lord is worthy of all praise: / when I call I am saved from my foes. **R.**

2. Long life to the Lord, my rock! / Praised be the God who saves me. / he has given great victories to his king / and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**

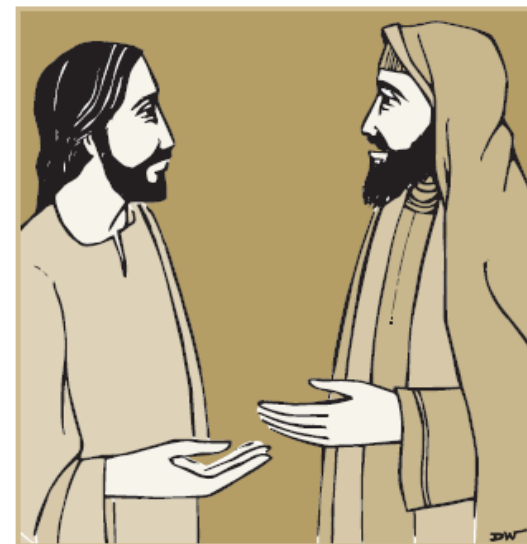
## SECOND READING

7:23-28

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

*This one, because he remains for ever, has an eternal priesthood.*

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows then, that his power to



save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them. Alleluia!

3 Nov 2024

Wk 31 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** 67658211  
**Pastoral Associate** 0411703608  
**St Josephs School** 67654079

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

**WEEKDAY MASSES** Thur: 9am Fri: 12pm

### CONFESSIONS

\* Sat: 4.30-5.00pm

\* Before every Mass

\* By appointment

**ENTRANCE** Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!

**ANTIPHON:** Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation.

**COMMUNION** You will show me the path of life,

**ANTIPHON:** the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** John Petch, Maree Petch, Jack Smyth, Joy O'Shea, Deacon Peter Harrison, Sheila Tilse.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Michael Lillcrap (27/10), Alma Mulherin (29/10), Bill Teo (29/10), 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, George Hurn, Eva, Joe and Bill McLean, Mel and Harry Hutchens, William Grima, Mary Camden, Tommy Hudson.

**SICK:** Marie Southwell, 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.

**PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH:** God our Father bless this community of St Patrick's to grow in strength as Christians and encircle us in your loving care. Through the intercession of St Patrick, our patron, we pray for the strength of God to pilot us; for the wisdom of God to instruct us; for the hand of God to protect us; for the word of God to direct us; and for the salvation of God to be always ours. Amen

### ST PATRICK'S PRAYER:

Christ with me, Christ before me,  
 Christ behind me, Christ in me. Amen.

### CHURCH COLLECTIONS: (BSB 082 105)

**1st. Collection West Tamworth Presbytery** **2nd Collection (Local) West Tamworth Church**  
 (Diocesan collection) Acc No:001023642 (St Patricks Church Mgt) Acc No: 001041198

### COMING EVENTS:

**26 Nov** Advent Reflection with Fr Sabu and cuppa

**17 Dec** Christmas Lunch—please register

**19 Dec** Reconciliation



## Thirty-first Week in Ordinary Time Year B

WELCOME TO ALL THOSE PEOPLE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

"Never murmur at what you don't understand, and never listen to a murmurer."



**NOVEMBER MASSES:** Please use envelopes to make requests for November Masses to be said for those deceased members of your family and/or friends with their *names written very clearly* as they will be printed and displayed on the church notice board. Thank you

**NO MASSES MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY THIS WEEK:** Due to the installation of the new PA system, there will be no masses on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

**JOSEPHITE CALENDARS 2025** have arrived. For those who have ordered them, these will be available at weekend masses this weekend and next weekend. \$10 each.

**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**.

### 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 [iubilaeum2025.va](http://iubilaeum2025.va). To express an interest in joining the pilgrimage please email Fr Damien Locke at [FrDLocke@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:FrDLocke@armidale.catholic.org.au).

**CLAIM THE DATES:** Advent reflection 10 am Tuesday 26 November with Fr Sabu in the Parish Centre, with cuppa to follow. Anointing Mass to be held on Wednesday 18 December at 12 noon. Reconciliation Thursday 19 December at 5.30 pm. 51 days till Christmas this Sunday.

George Nulley from the ADIG will be visiting the parish and speaking at the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses next weekend on 9-10 November 2024. Feel free to have a chat with George next weekend.

50 years  
 Celebrating 50 years in 2024

ADIG

Bonus Saver Account

Find out more about our Bonus Saver Account. Earn a bonus rate of interest on the base rate of interest when you meet certain criteria:

- Make an investment of at least \$10 or more within the month;
- AND
- Not make any withdrawals during that same month



SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO VIEW OUR CURRENT RATES



SCAN HERE TO VIEW OUR DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

\*Please view our full Terms and Conditions at [www.adig.com.au](http://www.adig.com.au)

### WEEK 4 ROSTER: 3/11/24

**Vigil:** R P Bamford Sr Kathryn  
**9am Sun:** R S Brown, M Donaldson  
**5.00pm Sun:** R G O'Toole C Lavell  
**Counting Team** R Paul S Brown  
**Fri Cleaning** M Vella A Jones  
**Altar Linen:** E Smyth

### WEEK 5 ROSTER: 10/11/24

**Vigil:** R C Ledwos, D Bolitho  
**9am Sun:** R J Ryan, G Clout  
**5.00pm Sun:** R J Moloney C Lavell  
**Counting Team** P Sheils 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.

