

**GOSPEL**

Lk 2:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Caesar Augustus issued a decree for a census of the whole world to be taken. This census — the first — took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria, and everyone went to his own town to be registered. So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee and travelled up to Judaea, to the town of David called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger because there was no room for them at the inn. In the countryside close by there were shepherds who lived in the fields and took it in turns to watch their flocks during the night. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone round them. They were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. Listen, I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people. Today in the town of David a saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. And here is a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.' And suddenly with the angel there was a great throng of the heavenly host, praising God and singing: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour'.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

**DAWN MASS****FIRST READING** Isa 62:11-12

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

This the Lord proclaims to the ends of the earth:  
Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Look, your saviour comes,  
the prize of his victory with him, his trophies before him.'  
They shall be called 'The Holy People', 'The Lord's Redeemed'.  
And you shall be called 'The-sought-after', 'City-not-forsaken'.

■ The word of the Lord.

**RESP PSALM** Ps 96: 1, 6, 11-12

**R.** A light will shine on us this day: the Lord is born for us.

1. The Lord is king, let earth rejoice, / the many coastlands be glad. / The skies proclaim his justice; / all peoples see his glory. **R.**
2. Light shines forth for the just / and joy for the upright of heart. / Rejoice, you just, in the Lord; / give glory to his holy name. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Titus 3: 4-7

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus.

When the kindness and love of God our saviour for mankind were revealed, it was not because he was concerned with any righteous actions we might have done ourselves; it was for no reason except his own compassion that he saved us, by means of the cleansing water of rebirth and by renewing us with the Holy Spirit which he has so generously poured over us through Jesus Christ our saviour. He did this so that we should be justified by his grace, to become heirs looking forward to inheriting eternal life.

■ The word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Lk 2: 14

Alleluia, alleluia! Glory to God in the highest, peace to his people on earth. Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

Luke 2: 15-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Now when the angels had gone from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us.' So they hurried away and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. When they saw the child they repeated what they had been told about him, and everyone who heard it was astonished at what the shepherds had to say. As for Mary, she treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds went back glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen; it was exactly as they had been told.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

**A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL**

Unauthorised reproduction of this bulletin prohibited. Published with ecclesiastical approval by ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS, PO Box 906, Strathfield NSW 2135. Tel 02 9394 3400 Fax 02 9394 3444. Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible, published and © 1966, by Darton, Longman and Todd Ltd and Doubleday & Co. Inc. are used by permission of the publishers. Psalm text from The Psalms, A New Translation, © 1963, The Grail (England), HarperCollins. New translation of the Order of Mass from The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. Artwork by Sr Dorothy Woodward rsj. Layout, commentaries and illustrations © St Pauls Publications, 2024. No 2069. Website: www.stpauls.com.au



# THE SAVING WORD

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD / C

MASS DURING THE NIGHT / DAWN MASS

25 DECEMBER 2024

**MASS DURING THE NIGHT****FIRST READING** Isa 9:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made their joy increase; they rejoice in your presence as men rejoice at harvest time, as men are happy when they are dividing the spoils. For the yoke that was weighing on him, the bar across his shoulders, the rod of his oppressor, these you break as on the day of Midian. For all the footgear of battle, every cloak rolled in blood, is burnt and consumed by fire.

For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace. Wide is his dominion in a peace that has no end, for the throne of David and for his royal power, which he establishes and makes secure in justice and integrity. From this time onwards and for ever, the jealous love of the Lord of hosts will do this.

■ The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

95:1-3, 11-13 R.v. Lk 2:11

**R.** Today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord.

1. O sing a new song to the Lord, / sing to the Lord all the earth. / O sing to the Lord, bless his name. **R.**



2. Proclaim his help day by day, / tell among the nations his glory / and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**

3. Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad, / let the sea and all within it thunder praise, / let the land and all it bears rejoice, / all the trees of the wood shout for joy / at the presence of the Lord for he comes, / he comes to rule the earth. **R.**

4. With justice he will rule the world, / he will judge the peoples with his truth. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Titus 2:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Titus

God's grace has been revealed, and it has made salvation possible for the whole human race and taught us that what we have to

do is to give up everything that does not lead to God, and all our worldly ambitions; we must be self-restrained and live good and religious lives here in this present world, while we are waiting in hope for the blessing which will come with the Appearing of the glory of our great God and saviour Christ Jesus. He sacrificed himself for us in order to set us free from all wickedness and to purify a people so that it could be his very own and would have no ambition except to do good.

■ The word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Lk 2:10-11

Alleluia, alleluia! Good News and great joy to all the world: today is born our Saviour, Christ the Lord. Alleluia.

25 Dec 2024  
CHRISTMAS YR C

## 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: 5.30 pm Sun: 9 am & 5pm

**WEEKDAY MASSES** Mon: 9 am Tues: 9 am Wed: 12 noon New Years Day  
Thur: 9 am St Stephen Fri: 12 noon St John

### CONFESSIONS

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

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** *A Child is born for us, and a son is given to us;  
His sceptre of power rests upon his shoulder,  
and His name will be called Messenger of great council.*

**COMMUNION** *All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.*

### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

*Christmas Carols: Tuesday 5.30 pm*

*Christmas Eve: Tuesday 24 Dec—Vigil Mass 6 pm*

*Christmas Day: Wednesday 25 Dec—Christmas Mass 9*



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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Madeline Hayes, Sister June Barrett rsj, Patricia Andrew, Vivienne Pullman, Hannah Press, Col Hassett, Rocco Cavallaro, John Petch, Maree Petch, Jack Smyth.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Gerry Griffiths (17/11), Ian MacPherson (30/11) Richard Bowler (1/12), Perce McInnes (1/12), John Paul Vella (4/12), Mary Sampson (2/1), John O'Brien (3/1), Pamela Davy (nee Barry) (6/1), Rod Kelly (20/1), Lawrence Vella (23/1).

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

**SICK:** Sr Cecilia Pistacchio, Kevin Frost, Marie Southwell, Cheryl Moloney, Judy Murphy, Daphne Sweeney (Sr Kathryn's mum), Elaine Murray, Thelma Gaff, Bill Press, Norma O'Brien, Christine Porters, Shane Davidson, Monica Austin, Terry Dean, Barbara Brennan, Graeme Russell, John Betts, Kate Harrison, William Bonner, Maureen Harrison, Fr Bernard Flood.

### COLLECTIONS

1st. Collection West Tamworth Presbytery  
(Diocesan collection) Acc No:001023642

2nd Collection (Local) West Tamworth Church  
(St Patricks Church Mgt) Acc No: 001041198

*Christmas Eve Mass 6.00 pm:*

*Christmas Day Mass 9am:*

*R1 Sr Kathryn R2 G Clout*

*R1 J Ryan R2 S Brown*

### WEEK 6 ROSTER: 29/12/24

**Vigil:** R P Bamford, G Styman:

**5.00pm Sun:** R A O'Halloran T Mitchell

**Fri Cleaning** M Vella A Jones

**9am Sun:**

**Counting Team**

**Altar Linen:**

R D Gowing, A Sartori

S Brown, A Bowden

E Smyth



## 2024 Christmas Message

*"And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us;  
and we saw His glory, the glory of the Father's only Son  
full of grace and truth." (Jn 1:14).*

To all my parishioners and friends

Dearly beloved

Christmas is not simply the remembrance of the Event that took place about 2000 years ago when, according to the Gospel, the power of God took on the frailty of a baby. It is really about a living reality that is repeated every year in the hearts of believers.☪

*"The mystery of the Holy Night, which historically  
happened two thousand years ago, must be lived  
as a spiritual event in the 'today' of the Liturgy,"  
"The Word who found a dwelling in Mary's womb  
comes to knock on the heart of every person . . .  
Bethlehem reminds us that God is with us  
in the person of Jesus Christ."*

Let us ask the Child Jesus, who comes to dwell among us,  
His mother; the Immaculate Virgin Mary,  
the glorious Patriarch St. Joseph and St. Patrick our patron  
to bless us, bless our families  
and bless all our loved ones who are near and far.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year for 2025!

*Fr Sabu Pulimalayil*



### 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**

*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.*

