

Here God lives among men. He will make his home among them; they shall be his people, and he will be their God; his name is God-with-them. He will wipe away all tears from their eyes; there will be no more death, and no more mourning or sadness. The world of the past has gone.'

Then the One sitting on the throne spoke: 'Now I am making the whole of creation new.'

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn 15:4-5

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Jn 13:31-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I give you a new commandment: love one another.

Jesus said to his disciples:

'Now has the Son of Man been glorified, and in him God has been glorified.

If God has been glorified in him, God will in turn glorify him in himself, and will glorify him very soon.

My little children,

I shall not be with you much longer.

I give you a new commandment:

love one another;

just as I have loved you,

you also must love one another.

By this love you have for one another,

everyone will know that you are my disciples.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / C

18 MAY 2025

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

In John's Gospel, Jesus prepares his disciples for his death and departure from them. Today's Gospel offers his final testimony to them about his relationship to God and final words that sum up his teaching legacy: Jesus will be glorified by God, even despite the indignation and suffering that await. Jesus will also 'glorify' God. His life and death reveal God's presence. The way that John portrays this in the story of Jesus' passion, death and glorification, we have already heard in John's Gospel proclaimed on Good Friday.

The second part of today's proclamation characterises Jesus followers throughout history: They ('we') are to love one another as Jesus loved: with humility, commitment, and selflessly. This style of living, typical of authentic discipleship, is so needed today in a world in which the selfish and great power-mongers seem to have the upper hand. The style of humble loving discipleship is what will change the world.

The Gospel's final words ('By this love you have for one another...') affirm this. They also shape the style of discipleship that frames local faith communities and parishes: Genuine love of one another, reflective of the spirit and heart of the kind of love that Jesus emulated for his disciples, will have its influence on the world. It will especially affect those seeking a faith nourishing community.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Acts 14:21-27

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them.

Paul and Barnabas went back through Lystra and Iconium to Antioch. They put fresh heart into the disciples, encouraging them to persevere in the faith. 'We all have to experience many hardships' they said 'before we enter the kingdom of God.' In each of these churches they appointed elders, and with prayer and fasting they commended them to the Lord in whom they had come to believe.

They passed through Pisidia and reached Pamphylia. Then after proclaiming the word at Perga they went down to Attalia and from there sailed for Antioch, where they had originally been commended to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.

On their arrival they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith to the pagans.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 144:8-13. R. cf. v. 1

R. I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God. (or Alleluia!)

1. The Lord is kind and full of compassion, / slow to anger, abounding in love. / How good is the Lord to all, / compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**

2. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord, / and your friends shall repeat their blessing. / They shall speak of the glory of your reign / and declare your might, O God, / to make known to men your mighty deeds / and the glorious splendour of your reign. **R.**

3. Yours is an everlasting kingdom; / your rule lasts from age to age. **R.**

SECOND READING

Apoc 21:1-5

A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

He will wipe away all the tears from their eyes.

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had disappeared now, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the holy city, and the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, as beautiful as a bride all dressed for her husband. Then I heard a loud voice call from the throne, 'You see this city?



18 May 2025
5th Sunday
Easter - Year C

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 Sheryl Brown, Di Bolitho
Sacristan Elaine Smyth
School Principals Greg O'Toole & Maree Holland

OFFICE HOURS:
Mon: 9.30 am - 12.30 pm
Fri: 9.30 am - 11.30 am
Presbytery 67658211
Pastoral Associate 0411703608
St Josephs School 67654079

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

WEEKDAY MASSES Mon: 9am Tues: 9am Wed: 12noon Thurs: 9am
Fri: *No Midday Mass
Sat: 9am - Our Lady, Help of Christians (Solemnity)

ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON: O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, Alleluia

COMMUNION ANTI-PHON: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, Alleluia.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Sr Rosalie O'Neill (RSJ), Ellen Jackson, Maureen McNeill

ANNIVERSARIES: Peg MacRae (4/5), Hugh O'Brien (18/5), Noeline Turner (19/5), Kevin McNamara (21/5), Sandy Murray (22/5).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care, Marie Southwell, Mimi Bennett, Julia Varga, Dalis O'Brien.

SICK: Sienna Baker, May Press, John Betts, Norma O'Brien, Elaine Murray, Shane Davidson, Sr Cecilia Pistacchio, Cheryl Moloney, Judy Murphy, Monica Austin, Daphne Sweeney (Sr Kathryn's mum), Robyn English, John Haggart

FUNERAL MASS NOTICE: *The funeral Mass for Ellen Jackson will be held at St Patrick's on Friday 23rd May at 2pm. There will be no midday Mass on this day.

COMING EVENTS:

20 May First Eucharist Information Night (5.30pm, StPatrick's Church)

24 May Mass - Our Lady, Help of Christians - 9am Mass

27 May Confirmation Information Night

03 June First Reconciliation - Tues 5.30pm

04 June Anointing Mass - 12noon

COLLECTIONS: **BSB: 082 105 Account Name : West Tamworth Catholic Church**

1st. Collection: For Diocesan Priests Acc: 001023642

2nd Collection: For St. Patrick's Church Acc: 001041198

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.



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR C WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

POPE LEO XIV

Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost is now the 267th Pope. We are truly blessed and pray for him.



"We are disciples of Christ. Christ goes before us. The world needs His light. Humanity needs Him as the bridge to reach God and His love. Help us too, then help each other to build bridges - with dialogue, with encounter, uniting all of us to be one people always in peace." - Leo XIV

THANK YOU to Fr Ross O'Brien for his pastoral care for us during Fr Sabu's absence. We pray God grants you many blessings.

MAY - THE MONTH OF MARY: The month of May is the "month which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady," and it is the occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world [pay] to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance" (Paul VI: Encyclical on the Month of May, no. 1). [Liturgical Year : May, Month of Mary | Catholic Culture](#)

An Act of Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Mary, Mother of God and Virgin, I choose thee this day for my queen, patron, and advocate, and firmly resolve and purpose never to abandon thee, never to say or do anything against thee, nor to permit that aught be done by others to dishonour thee. Receive me, then, I conjure thee, as thy perpetual servant; assist me in all my actions, and do not abandon me at the hour of my death. Amen. — St. John Berchmans

Devotions to the Mother of God : Regina Coeli (Queen of Heaven); The Rosary; Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Litany of Loretto).



WEEK 2 ROSTER: 18/05/25

Vigil: R: Sr Kathryn N Pullman
9am Sun: R: S Brown G Clout
5pm: Sun R: A O'Halloran Volunteer
Counting : O & J Whale S Brown
Fri Cleaning S Brown V Griffiths

Gifts: J & P Bamford
Gifts: Michelle & Sally
Gifts: Volunteer
Altar Linen: E Smyth

WEEK 3 ROSTER: 25/05/25

Vigil: R: D Bolitho J. Woodbridge
9am Sun: R: M Holley R Paull
5.00pm Sun: R: J Parrenas J Parrenas
Counting: P Shiels G&M Thrift
Fri Cleaning M Brown K O'Brien

Gifts: K O'Brien M Asbury
Gifts: B Schipp
Gifts: Volunteer
Altar Linen: H. Reid