

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Who is my neighbour?

There was a lawyer who, to disconcert Jesus, stood up and said to him, 'Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?' He said to him, 'What is written in the law? What do you read there?' He replied, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.' 'You have answered right,' said Jesus, 'do this and life is yours'.

But the man was anxious to justify himself and said to Jesus, 'And who is my neighbour?' Jesus replied, 'A man was once on his way down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of brigands; they took all he had, beat him and then made off, leaving him half dead. Now a priest happened to be travelling down the same road, but when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. In the same way a Levite who came to the place saw him, and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan traveller who came upon him was moved with compassion when he saw him. He went up and bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them. He then lifted him on to his own mount, carried him to the inn and looked after him. Next day, he took out two denarii and handed them to the innkeeper. "Look after him," he said "and on my way back I will make good any extra expense you have." Which of these three, do you think, proved himself a neighbour to the man who fell into brigands' hands?' 'The one, who took pity on him', he replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go, and do the same yourself'.

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Breaking Open the Word

EXPECTATIONS UPENDED

The parable of the *Good Samaritan* from today's Gospel is one of our favourites. We know it so well, or we think we do, and has been with us from our earliest days. Today invites us to take a second look. Jesus tells the story to illustrate who is neighbour, affirming the two most important commandments from the Torah—one's total commitment to God (from Deuteronomy) and to love one's neighbour (from Leviticus).

Jesus tells the story to a religious interpreter of the Torah who would never think about Samaritans, other than in negative terms. So, for Jesus to make the Samaritan as the example of care for one who fell in with robbers is shocking to Jesus' questioner. The two religious leaders in the story, the priest and Levite, who 'pass by on the other side' would have been obliged under the Torah to assist anyone in the condition in which they find the abandoned and dying traveller. They fail in their religious duties. It is the unexpected one, the Samaritan, who is moved with 'compassion'—a visceral response that, in the Greek text, is linked to 'womb'.

The story Jesus tells upends expectations, even the expected cultural and social script of the day. I suspect Luke is dealing with something similar in the world of the Gospel audience. The late Pope Francis reminded us in his meditation on this same story of the importance of 'noticing'—of looking and observing so that we can respond. He invites us to see those in our world that we tend not to notice.

Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

13 JULY 2025

FIRST READING

Deut 30:10-14

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Let the instruction of the Lord God be near you.

Moses said to the people: 'Obey the voice of the Lord your God, keeping those commandments and laws of his that are written in the Book of this Law, and you shall return to the Lord your God with all your heart and soul.

'For this Law that I enjoin on you today is not beyond your strength or beyond your reach. It is not in heaven, so that you need to wonder, "Who will go up to heaven for us and bring it down to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" Nor is it beyond the seas, so that you need to wonder, "Who will cross the seas for us and bring it back to us, so that we may hear it and keep it?" No, the Word is very near to you, it is in your mouth and in your heart for your observance.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 68:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36-37. R. cf. v. 33

R. Turn to the Lord in your need, and you will live.

1. This is my prayer to you, / my prayer for your favour. / In your great love, answer me, O God, / with your help that never fails: Lord, answer, for your love is kind; / in your compassion, turn towards me. **R.**
2. As for me in my poverty and pain / let your help, O God, lift me up. / I will praise God's name with a song; / I will glorify him with thanksgiving. **R.**
3. The poor when they see it will be glad / and God-seeking hearts will revive; / for the Lord listens to the needy / and does not spurn his servants in their chains. **R.**
4. For God will bring help to Zion / and rebuild the cities of Judah. / The sons of his servants shall inherit it; / those who love his name shall dwell there. **R.**



SECOND READING

Col 1:15-20

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

All things were created through him and for him.

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God and the first-born of all creation, for in him were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and everything invisible, Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignities, Powers – all things were created through him and for him.

Before anything was created, he existed, and he holds all things in unity. Now the Church is his body, he is its head.

As he is the Beginning, he was first to be born from the dead, so that he should be first in every way; because God wanted all perfection to be found in him and all things to be reconciled through him and for him, everything in heaven and everything on earth, when he made peace by his death on the cross.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Jn 6:63,68

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words, Lord, are spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life. Alleluia!

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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13 July 2025
15th Sunday - Yr 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 Saint Bonaventure Tues: 9am
Wed: 12noon Thurs: 9am Fri: 12noon

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young:
by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Eileen Humphries, Michael Chetcuti, Nola O'Halloran, Barry Patterson, Nancy Daly, Cheryl Moloney, Angelito Llave.

ANNIVERSARIES: Tom Hudson (10/7), Bridget Teo (29/7).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care, Paul Compton (Randwick) Noelene Freestone, John Haggart, Barry Condon, Ellen Jackson, Maureen McNeill, Frank & Josephine Grima, Ben Boyd, Sr. Rosalie O'Neill RSJ.

SICK: Sienna Baker, May Press, John Betts, Norma O'Brien, Elaine Murray, Shane Davidson, Sr Cecilia Pistacchio, Judy Murphy, Monica Austin, Robyn English, Daphne Sweeney (Sr Kathryn's mum), Brian Rodway, Lisa Bond, John Ryan, Yvonne Tarrant.

THE GOOD SAMARITAN

"Before being a religious matter,
compassion is a question of humanity!
Before being believers, we are called to be human,"
Pope Leo



COMING EVENTS:

21 July: School Term 3 Begins.

01 Aug: Exposition & Benediction, 11.30am

COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105

Account Name: West Tamworth Catholic 'Church' Or 'Presbytery'

1st. Collection: For Diocesan Priests : 001023642 (Presbytery Account)

2nd Collection: For St. Patrick's Church : 001041198 (Church Account)

*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.*



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY - YEAR C WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND RECENTLY DECEASED: Please keep all those who are unwell, recently deceased and caring and bereaved family and friends in your thoughts, and pray that their faith in Jesus will bring them comfort during these difficult times.

CALL FOR ROSTER VOLUNTEERS: We are in great need of more volunteers for Reading and Gifts for Sunday evenings. Interested? Please speak to Father Sabu or contact the Office.

PLANNED GIVING - NEW FINANCIAL YEAR: Your regular Planned Giving donation is possible via electronic transfer to the account details listed opposite. You may reference your name or remain anonymous. There are still some envelope packs to be collected from the Church or Office. Please attempt to collect these as soon as possible.

The New Planned Giving envelopes for 2025-2026 are green in colour and we ask you **do not use your old envelopes** going forward as the numbers have changed due to more parishioners using bank transfers which mean less actual envelopes are required and the numbers need to be shuffled back. We thank you for your co-operation.

THE JUBILEE PRAYER

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, re-awaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. **Amen**

ADIG ANNUAL REPORT: The ADIG 2025 Annual Report is now available online.

See: <https://adig.com.au/adig-2025-annual-report/>

ROSTER FOR: 13/07/25

Vigil: R: P Bamford Sr Kathryn
9am Sun: R: S Brown, M Donaldson
5pm Sun: R: G O'Toole Volunteer
Counting: G & M Thrift
Fri Cleaning: S Brown & V Griffiths

Gifts: M Asbury
Gifts: A & S Vueti
Gifts: Volunteers
Altar Linen: E Smyth

ROSTER FOR: 20/07/25

Vigil: R: C Ledwos D Bolitho
9am Sun: R: J Ryan, G Clout
5pm Sun: R: C Lavell Volunteer
Counting: P Shiels, S Brown
Fri Cleaning: M Brown & K O'Brien

Gifts: A and C Lyons
Gifts: B Schipp, C Grima
Gifts: Volunteer
Altar Linen: H Reid

