

Alleluia, alleluia! Happy the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs! Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according
to Luke.

To whom will all this wealth of yours go?

A man in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Master, tell my brother to give me a share of our inheritance.' 'My friend,' he replied 'who appointed me your judge, or the arbitrator of your claims?' Then he said to them, 'Watch, and be on your guard against avarice of any kind, for a man's life is not made secure by what he owns, even when he has more than he needs.'

Then he told them a parable: 'There was once a rich man who, having had a good harvest from his land, thought to himself, "What am I to do? I have not enough room to store my crops." Then he said, "This is what I will do: I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and store all my grain and my goods in them, and I will say to my soul: My soul, you have plenty of good things laid by for many years to come; take things easy, eat, drink, have a good time." But God said to him, "Fool! This very night the demand will be made for your soul; and this hoard of yours, whose will it be then?" So it is when a man stores up treasure for himself in place of making himself rich in the sight of God.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word

WHAT IS TRULY IMPORTANT

Unfortunately, arguments do sometimes happen within families on the death of a family member. These often revolve around property, ownership and how the Will is divided. Family disputes are not unknown. The same occurred in Luke's day.

Today's Gospel begins with the dispute between two brothers over an inheritance claim. One of them wants Jesus to arbitrate. But Jesus moves the issue to the deeper level of encounter. He names it as greed. The wisdom that emerges is that human security is never guaranteed by property ownership or possessions. This is a familiar theme in Luke's Gospel. It is an issue among those whom Luke addresses. Reading behind the lines of today's Gospel, the evangelist responds to concerns about wealth, greed, inheritance disputes and inner tensions.

The second part of the Gospel explores these issues further: A farmer decides to build bigger barns to store his harvest. But what he has forgotten is that he is not the one responsible for the bumper harvest. It is the earth. In his avariciousness he has lost his ecological connectedness. Greed blurs his spiritual vision and sensitivity to God's earth. The farmer seeks rather a life of ease and comfort. The evangelist reminds the Gospel's audience to keep things in perspective. The disciple's real focus is on one's soul and relationship with God. Today's Gospel is a sobering reminder of what is truly important.

Fr Michael Trainor



THE SAVING WORD

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

3 AUGUST 2025

FIRST READING

Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes

What do people gain by all their work?

Vanity of vanities, the Preacher says. Vanity of vanities. All is vanity!

For so it is that a man who has laboured wisely, skilfully and successfully must leave what is his own to someone who has not toiled for it at all. This, too, is vanity and great injustice; for what does he gain for all the toil and strain that he has undergone under the sun? What of all his laborious days, his cares of office, his restless nights? This, too, is vanity.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17. R. v. 1

R. In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge.

1. You turn men back into dust / and say: 'Go back, sons of men.' / To your eyes a thousand years / are like yesterday, come and gone, / no more than a watch in the night. **R.**

2. You sweep men away like a dream, / like grass which springs up in the morning. / In the morning it springs up and flowers: / by evening it withers and fades. **R.**

3. Make us know the shortness of our life / that we may gain wisdom of heart. / Lord, relent! Is your anger for ever? / Show pity to your servants. **R.**

4. In the morning, fill us with your love; / we shall exult and rejoice all our days. / Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: / give success to the work of our hands. **R.**

SECOND READING

Col 3:1-5,9-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Seek the things that are above, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that



are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

That is why you must kill everything in you that belongs only to earthly life: fornication, impurity, guilty passion, evil desires and especially greed, which is the same thing as worshipping a false god; and never tell each other lies. You have stripped off your old behaviour with your old self, and you have put on a new self which will progress towards true knowledge the more it is renewed in the image of its creator; and in that image there is no room for distinction between Greek and Jew, between the circumcised or the uncircumcised, or between barbarian and Scythian, slave and free man. There is only Christ: he is everything and he is in everything.

■ The word of the Lord.

03 August 2025
18th 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 Sat: 5.30 pm Sun: 9 am & 5 pm
MASSES

WEEKDAY Mon: 9am (St John Vianney) Tues: 9am
MASSES Wed: 12noon (Transfiguration) Thurs: 9am
Fri: 12noon (St Mary of the Cross)

CONFESSIONS

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

ENTRANCE Oh God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me!
ANTIPHON: You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

COMMUNION You have given us, O Lord, bread from Heaven,
ANTIPHON:

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Robyn English, Angela Muscat, Eileen Humphries, Michael Chetcuti, Nola O'Halloran, Bob McKinnon.

ANNIVERSARIES: William Davy (25/7) Bridget Teo (29/7), Jack Sampson (09/8).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care, Barry Patterson, Nancy Daly, Cheryl Moloney, Ellen Jackson, Maureen McNeill.

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

The Transfiguration

Our Lord's change in appearance from the passable bodily form in which He would suffer and die, to the glorified form in which He would rise from the dead.



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)

COMING EVENTS:

03 - 10 Aug: Vocations Awareness Week

03 Aug: Special Appeal - Retired Clergy & Education of Seminarians

08 Aug: St Mary of the Cross (Solemnity) - Mass 12noon

10 Aug: Family Mass 9am (with St Joseph's School)

31 Aug: Social Justice Sunday

31 Aug: Fr Sabu's last Sunday at St Patrick's Parish

31 Aug: Parish Morning Tea for Fr Sabu (After 9am Mass)



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.



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

FEAST OF SAINT MARY OF THE CROSS MACKILLOP:

'Never see a need without trying to do something about it.' – Mary MacKillop

Friday, 8th August, we celebrate the Solemnity of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop.

Mary MacKillop, along with Father Julian Tenison Woods, founded the Sisters of St. Joseph in Penola, South Australia, with the aim of educating poor children. The order grew, establishing schools and convents across Australia and New Zealand, however, it was not without its challenges.

After years of dedicated work, Pope Leo XIII granted official approval to the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1888. Mary MacKillop continued her work with the Sisters and remained devoted to the order until her death in 1909.

Throughout her life, Mary accompanied many people during moments of hardship as well as moments of great happiness.

She offered friendship to all, truly leading a life that placed her in the Grace of God. For so many, Mary is the ultimate embodiment of Christ's love for humanity through her "zeal for the poor and marginalised". Her empathy and compassion for children and young people in particular highlights how genuine concern and love for those who are placed on the edges of society can bolster the fight for social justice and equality.



THANK YOU, FR ROSS O'BRIEN for providing Masses for us over the last few weeks.

NATIONAL VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK: 3rd to 10th August 2025.

This week is dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood, religious life, and other forms of service within the Catholic Church. It encourages individuals to discern God's call in their lives and to consider the various ways they can serve. There will also be a special appeal for Retired Clergy and Education of Seminarians on Sunday 3rd August. Please support this Appeal if you are able to do so. Envelopes will be provided in the church and receipts are available on request. Please note you may nominate on the envelope how you wish your donation to be attributed. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

ROSTER FOR: 03/08/25

Vigil: R: C Ledwos, Sr Kathryn
9am Sun: R: S Nichols A Sartori
5pm Sun: R: C Lavell Volunteer
Counting: O & J Whale
Fri Cleaning M Vella, I Ullman

Gifts: S. Shulze & V. Griffiths
Gifts : Michelle & Sally
Gifts: Volunteer
Altar Linen: M Vella

ROSTER FOR: 10/08/25

Vigil: R: Sr Kathryn N Pullman
9am Sun: R: St Joseph's School
5pm Sun: R: A O'Halloran Volunteer
Counting: G & M Thrift
Fri Cleaning S Brown V Griffiths

Gifts: Volunteer
Gifts: St Joseph's School
Gifts: Volunteer
Altar Linen: E Smyth