

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let your face shine on your servant,
and teach me your laws.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 14:25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

All who do not renounce their possessions cannot be my disciples.

Great crowds accompanied Jesus on his way and he turned and spoke to them. 'If any man comes to me without hating his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, sisters, yes and his own life too, he cannot be my disciple. Anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

'And indeed, which of you here, intending to build a tower, would not first sit down and work out the cost to see if he had enough to complete it? Otherwise, if he laid the foundation and then found himself unable to finish the work, the onlookers would all start making fun of him and saying, 'Here is a man who started to build and was unable to finish.' Or again, what king marching to war against another king would not first sit down and consider whether with ten thousand men he could stand up to the other who advanced against him with twenty thousand? If not, then while the other king was still a long way off, he would send envoys to sue for peace. So in the same way, none of you can be my disciple unless he gives up all his possessions.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word

THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

What is the 'cost' of being a disciple? What will it require? These questions are addressed in today's Gospel. Jesus is on his way to Jerusalem where suffering and death await. He is accompanied by a crowd of people. They, too, are on the 'way'—the earliest expression used of Jesus' followers who, according to Luke in the Acts of the Apostles, are named people of 'The Way' (Acts 9.2f).

It is clear from Jesus' teaching that discipleship will not be easy. We have met this theme already back in August, on the 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time, when Jesus spoke of the tensions that would arise within households where committed disciples lived. In today's passage, this household division is even more dramatically described. Disciples' relationship to Jesus must trump every other. The word which Luke uses is 'hate'. Disciples must 'hate' parents and siblings. The language of Luke's day employed superlatives and exaggerated speech to make a point. So, the disciple is not to literally 'hate' family members, but the 'hate' expression is a reminder that following Jesus will come at a cost. This cost requires commitment and needs calculation.

This is the point of the two examples which conclude the Gospel: calculation is needed in building materials or the chances of victory in battle. The final note the passage ends on is one of Luke's favourite themes: Disciples must not be possessed by possessions. The disciple must be free, of wealth and even relationships that hinder communion with Jesus.

Fr Michael Trainor

THE SAVING WORD

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

7 SEPTEMBER 2025

FIRST READING

Wis 9:13-18

A reading from the book of Wisdom
Who can comprehend the will of the Lord?

'What man can know the intentions of God? Who can divine the will of the Lord? The reasonings of mortals are unsure and our intentions unstable; for a perishable body presses down the soul, and this tent of clay weighs down the teeming mind.

It is hard enough for us to work out what is on earth,

laborious to know what lies within our reach; who, then, can discover what is in the heavens?

As for your intention, who could have learnt it, had you not granted Wisdom and sent your holy spirit from above? Thus have the paths of those on earth been straightened

and men been taught what pleases you, and saved, by Wisdom.'

■ 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

Philem 9-10, 12-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon

Receive him, not as a slave anymore, but as a very dear brother.

This is Paul writing, an old man now and, what is more, still a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for a child of mine, whose father I became while wearing these chains: I mean Onesimus. I am sending him back to you, and with him – I could say – a part of my own self. I should have liked to keep him with me; he could have been a substitute for you, to help me while I am in the chains that the Good News has brought me. However, I did not want to do anything without your consent; it would have been forcing your act of kindness, which should be spontaneous. I know you have been deprived of Onesimus for a time, but it was only so that you could have him back for ever, not as a slave any more, but something much better than a slave, a dear brother; especially dear to me, but how much more to you, as a blood-brother as well as a brother in the Lord. So if all that we have in common means anything to you, welcome him as you would me.

■ The word of the Lord.

07 Sept 2025
23rd Sunday - Yr C

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>
Email: westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au



Parish Administrator Fr Saji Kappikuzhi
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 The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast)
MASSES Tues: 9am Wed: 12pm Thurs: 9am Fri: 12pm

ENTRANCE You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
ANTIPHON: treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

COMMUNION Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
ANTIPHON: so my soul is yearning for you, my God;
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Allan Jacobson, Pat Wall, Terry Mooney, Terry Dean.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jack Sampson (09/8), Greg Gallagher (30/8).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care, Hugh O'Brien, Robyn English, Angela Muscat, Eileen Humphries, Bob McKinnon, John Hegarty

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, Bill Dennis.

Prayer for Fathers:

Lord, We ask for your renewed courage, for your boldness, for your Spirit to fill them.

Make them always aware and alert of the schemes of the enemy.

We ask that you would keep their footsteps firm, and guard their way.

We ask that you would help them to always stand strong, to be men of faith, to say "no" to what is wrong, and to say "yes" to what is right.

We ask that you would fill their hearts with love, compassion, joy, faithfulness, and cover their lives with great peace. Amen

COMING EVENTS:

07 Sep: Father's Day

14 Sep: Safeguarding Sunday

28 Sep: Migrants and Refugees Sunday

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.*



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

WELCOME FATHER SAJI

We welcome Father Saji to St Patrick's Parish on his first weekend with us. We trust his time at St. Patrick's will be a happy and rewarding one, and we look forward to getting to know him in the coming weeks.

HAPPY FATHERS DAY TO ALL FATHERS: We sincerely wish all our very special Fathers, new, old, yet to be, and those in spirit - including our new Parish Administrator - Fr Saji, and our well known local, Fr Ross O'Brien. We hope you all enjoy a special day of appreciation from your children, grandchildren, families and loved ones around you.

Pope Leo is recorded as "offering a heartfelt message about the sacred role of fatherhood, shaped by his own memories and spiritual insights. Drawing from personal conversations with his dad and his years in ministry, the pontiff challenges fathers to raise their children with integrity and love; to.. "Love Without Reserve, and Lead with Integrity"

DECREE ON THE INDULGENCE DURING THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE:

As well as visiting the sacred places, one needs to fulfil a spiritual work, such as:

- *Attending Mass;*
- *Attending a Penitential Service;*
- *Making the Way of the Cross;*
- *Attending Eucharistic Adoration (recitation of the Creed, the Our Father, the Hail Mary);*
- *Attending a Liturgy of the Word;*
- *Praying a part of the Divine Office (Lauds, Vespers);*
- *Praying the Rosary;*
- *Attending a Retreat or Mission.*

It is appropriate that these actions be conducted at the sacred place. If one is unable to frequent a sacred place for serious reasons (e.g. through sickness, old age or imprisonment) then one can perform one of the above-mentioned spiritual works, fulfil the four conditions and so obtain the indulgence. Normally an individual can receive only one plenary indulgence per day, however, if that indulgence was for the holy souls in Purgatory, then, one may receive a second indulgence for the deceased provided that they have received Holy Communion a second time during Mass on that day.

ROSTER FOR: 07/09/25

Vigil: R: N Pullman, Sr Kathryn
9am Sun: R: D Gowing, A Sartori
5pm Sun: R: A O'Halloran, Volunteer
Counting: R. Paull, S. Brown
Fri Cleaning S Brown, V Griffiths

Gifts: S. Shulze & V Griffiths
Gifts: A & S Vueti
Gifts: Volunteer
Altar Linen: E Smyth

ROSTER FOR: 14/09/25

Vigil: R: C Ledwos, Sr Kathryn
9am Sun: R: S Nichols A Sartori
5pm Sun: R: C Lavell, Volunteer
Counting: P. Sheils, S. Brown
Fri Cleaning M. Brown, K. O'Brien

Gifts: Volunteer
Gifts: B. Schipp, C. Grima
Gifts: Volunteer
Altar Linen: H. Reid



For more information on other designated sacred places to visit scan the QR code for the Pilgrims of Hope in Australia website

