

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus Christ was rich but he became poor, to make you rich out of his poverty. Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

You cannot be slaves both of God and of money.

Jesus said to his disciples, 'The man who can be trusted in little things can be trusted in great; the man who is dishonest in little things can be dishonest in great. If then you cannot be trusted with money, that tainted thing, who will trust you with genuine riches? And if you cannot be trusted with what is not yours, who will give you what is your very own? 'No servant can be the slave of two masters: he will either hate the first and love the second, or treat the first with respect and the second with scorn. You cannot be the slave both of God and of money.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Longer form Lk 16:1-13



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Breaking Open the Word

RELEASE OF DEBT

Today's Gospel returns us to a favourite repetitive Lukan theme. It is about the disciples' attitudes to wealth and possessions. The teaching takes the form of a story from Jesus. The main character is a rich landowner – a character with which some in Luke's Gospel community could well identify with given that they, too, were property owners.

There's a problem which the owner identifies. He presumes that his manager has been 'wasteful with his [the owner's] property'. We are not sure what 'wasteful' means in this case and we can superimpose our expectations from our Western ideas on to what might be going on. But there could be another agenda at play from Luke's world. Wealth came about through other people becoming poorer. The evangelist wants the wealthy to reconsider their responsibility to poorer Gospel members. The manager could be acting to redistribute wealth in a way that the property owner considers 'wasteful.' The manager's 'redistribution program' might also be operating later when he considers what he will do after he has been fired from his position because of the greed of his landowner.

The release of debt that the manager brings about from those in debt (a key petition in the 'Lord's Prayer') is a release from greater poverty. The wisdom that emerges from the story and is explicated in the final lines of the Gospel is about the use of wealth. It is, for the faith community, the building up of friendship and, for the disciple, to be free. This is being released from being possessed by possessions. Today's Gospel is a timely reminder for us in a world of wealth, bitcoins and foreign exchange.



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

FIRST READING

Amos 8:4-7

A reading from the prophet Amos

The Lord spoke against those who buy the poor for money.

Listen to this, you who trample on the needy and try to suppress the poor people of the country,

you who say, 'When will New Moon be over so that we can sell our corn, and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat?

Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel, by swindling and tampering with the scales, we can buy up the poor for money, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and get a price even for the sweeping of the wheat.'

The Lord swears it by the pride of Jacob, 'Never will I forget a single thing you have done.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 112:1-2, 4-8. R. cf. vv. 1, 7

R. Praise the Lord, who lifts up the poor. (or Alleluia!)

1. Praise, O servants of the Lord, / praise the name of the Lord! / May the name of the Lord be blessed / both now and for evermore! R.

2. High above all nations is the Lord, / above the heavens his glory. / Who is like the Lord, our God, / who has risen on high to his throne / yet stoops from the heights to look down, / to look down upon heaven and earth? R.

3. From the dust he lifts up the lowly, / from the dungheap he raises the poor / to set him in the company of princes, / yes, with the princes of his people. R.



SECOND READING

1 Tim 2:1-8

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to Timothy

Let prayers be offered to God for everyone; he wants all people to be saved.

My advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet. To do this is right, and will please God our saviour: he wants everyone to be saved and reach full knowledge of the truth. For there is only one God, and there is only one mediator between God and humankind, himself a man, Christ Jesus, who sacrificed himself as a ransom for them all. He is the evidence of this, sent at the appointed time, and I have been named a herald and apostle of it and – I am telling the truth and no lie – a teacher of the faith and the truth to the pagans.

In every place, then, I want the men to lift their hands up reverently in prayer, with no anger or argument.

■ The word of the Lord.

Fr Michael Trainor

21 September 2025
25th Sunday - Yr C

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>
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Parish Administrator Fr Saji Kappikuzhi
Pastoral Associate Sr Kathryn Sweeney RSJ.
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Sacristan Elaine Smyth
School Principals Greg O'Toole & Maree Holland

OFFICE HOURS:
Mon & Fri: 9.30 am - 1.30pm

Presbytery 67658211
Pastoral Associate 0411703608
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WEEKEND MASSES Sat: 5.30 pm Sun: 9 am & 5 pm

WEEKDAY MASSES Mon: 9am Tues: 9am St Pius of Pietrelcina
Wed: 12noon Thurs: 9am Fri: 12noon

ENTRANCE I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.

ANTIPHON: Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

COMMUNION You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
ANTIPHON: May my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Phil Eather, John Galloway, Allan Jacobson, Pat Wall, Terry Mooney.

ANNIVERSARIES: Chris Morris (12/9), Val Chillingworth (13/9), Deacon Peter Harrison (21/9).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care, Hugh O'Brien, Robyn English, Eileen Humphries, Bob McKinnon, John Hegarty, Noeline Turner, Nancy Daly.

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, Barry McNamara.

Are we slaves of God or money?

In this weekend's Gospel reading, Luke invites us to ask this question of ourselves.

As Christians, we must contribute to the welfare of the broader human community.

If we are devoted to God and not to money, we will bring great riches to our society.



COMING EVENTS:

28 Sep: Migrants and Refugees Sunday
03 Oct: Exposition and Benediction 11.30am
05 Oct: Daylight Saving Begins
15 Oct: St Brigid's, Quirindi - Miniature Cathedral Pilgrimage

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)

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

ROSTERS AND VOLUNTEERS: Thank you to all our generous parishioners who currently assist with reading, offertory procession, cleaning and other ministries you see happening in our church. If you would like to volunteer for any of these functions, please speak to the office staff, Father Saji or Sr Kathryn. We have a current need for readers and offertory procession for the 5.30pm Sunday Mass. You may prefer to be a backup person rather than go on a roster. We would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to help out.

INVITATION FROM ST BRIGID'S PARISH, QUIRINDI - Miniature Cathedral Pilgrimage

St Brigid's Catholic Church, Henry Street, Quirindi is holding the Miniature Cathedral Pilgrimage on Jubilee Day – 15 October 2025. The day will commence at 10.30am and conclude with a light lunch after 12pm Mass.

10.30am – Holy Rosary;
11.00am - Holy Hour & Adoration (confession available);
12.00 noon - Holy Mass;
1.15pm - Light Luncheon in the Fr Stan Campbell Hall (behind the Church).
For those who are attending the luncheon, for catering purposes, please RSVP by 8th Oct 2025 to quirindiparish@armidale.catholic.org.au. Everyone welcome.



EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION: At St Patrick's, Exposition and Benediction take place on the first Friday of the month, prior to the 12 noon Mass. If you wish to attend, please just check the bulletin for any changes.

OCTOBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY: As the month of October is very quickly approaching, we are reminded that it is recognised as the month of the Most Holy Rosary. This month is dedicated to the devotion of the Rosary, which is a powerful way to pray and reflect on the life of Jesus Christ. Catholics are encouraged to pray the Rosary together. There are many beautiful hand made rosary beads now in our parish thanks to our crafty parishioners, and October is the time to put them to their intended use for the many blessings the prayers may bring.



ROSTER FOR: 21/09/25

Vigil:	R: Sr Kathryn N Pullman	Gifts:	K. O'Brien, M. Asbury
9am Sun:	R: S Brown J Woodbridge	Gifts:	G & U McKay
5pm Sun:	R: A O'Halloran Volunteer	Gifts:	Volunteer
Counting:	M. Vella, A. Bowden	Altar Linen:	J. Hutt
Fri Cleaning	J. Hutt, J. Moran		

ROSTER FOR: 28/09/25

Vigil:	R: C Ledwos D Bolitho	Gifts:	A & C Lyons
9am Sun:	R: M Holley R Paull	Gifts:	Michelle & Sally
5pm Sun:	R: J Parrenas J Parrenas	Gifts:	Volunteer
Counting:	A. Bowden, S. Brown	Altar Linen:	M. Vella
Fri Cleaning	M. Vella, I. Ullman		

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.

