

will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed.' And they put to him this question: 'Master', they said 'when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?'

'Take care not to be deceived', he said 'because many will come using my name and saying, "I am he", and, "The time is near at hand." Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not so soon.' Then he said to them, 'Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven.

'But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself shall give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.'

### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

#### A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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# Breaking Open the Word



LUKE  
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / C

# THE SAVING WORD

16 NOVEMBER 2025

### GOD'S PROTECTIVE PROMISE

Last Sunday we commemorated the *Dedication of the Lateran Basilica*. The Gospel then was from John with Jesus cleansing the Temple and its precincts, restoring it as the rightful abode of God's presence and holiness. Today's Gospel, continuing our liturgical journey with Luke, touches again on the theme of the Temple. But this time, Jesus anticipates its destruction and then springboards Gospel listeners into a sermon on the end-time. The Gospel theme prepares us for the final Sundays of the year before the new liturgical year, Year A and Matthew's Gospel, commences in two weeks' time with the beginning of Advent.

Today's Gospel is complex and often misunderstood. It requires careful explanation. Our selection comes from Luke's 'apocalyptic' chapter. Here the evangelist draws on Mk 13 but reshapes it in the light of the audience's experience and memory of Jerusalem's destruction by Rome in 70 CE. This experience is retrojected on to Jesus' teaching seeming to prophesy its destruction. In Jesus' day the Temple was still standing; by the time Luke writes, Jerusalem and its Temple are already destroyed.

Luke's apocalyptic teaching acknowledges the struggle of Jesus' faithful followers living generations after Jesus' public ministry, assuring them of God's comforting presence, warning them not to be carried away by messianic pretenders, and encouraging their patient endurance in all that unfolds. The last words of the Gospel contain the essence of God's protective promise: '...not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives.' We, too, lean into these words amid our struggles today.

Fr Michael Trainor

### FIRST READING

Mal 3:19-20

A reading from the prophet Malachi  
*The sun of righteousness will shine on you.*

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and the evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

■ The word of the Lord.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 97:5-9. R. cf. v. 9

R. The Lord comes to rule the earth with justice.

1. Sing psalms to the Lord with the harp / with the sound of music. / With trumpets and the sound of the horn / acclaim the King, the Lord. R.
2. Let the sea and all within it, thunder; / the world, and all its peoples. / Let the rivers clap their hands / and the hills ring out their joy / at the presence of the Lord. R.
3. For the Lord comes, / he comes to rule the earth. / He will rule the world with justice / and the peoples with fairness. R.

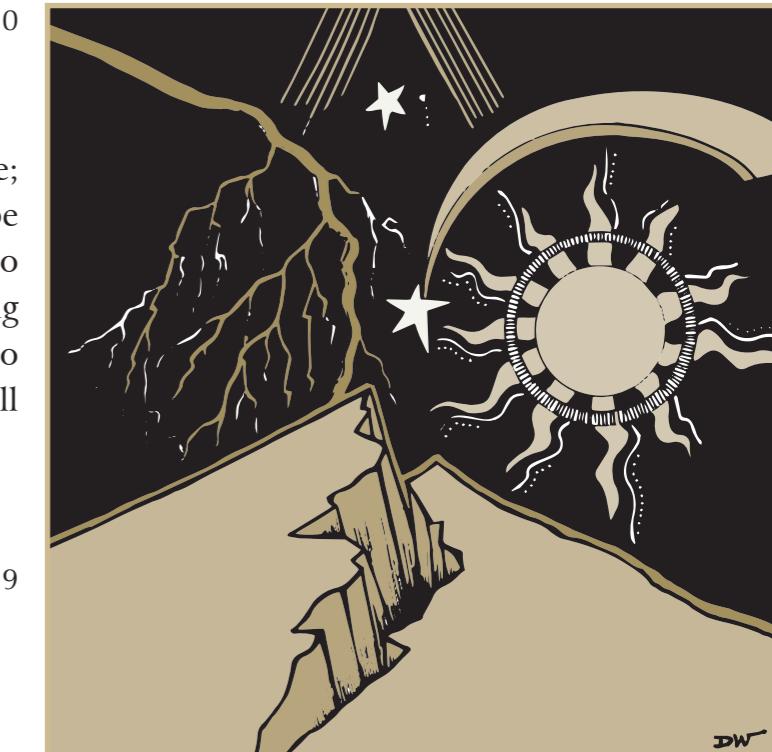
### SECOND READING

2 Thess 3:7-12

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

*Do not give anyone food who refuses to work.*

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow.



We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves but interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food that they eat.

■ The word of the Lord.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 21:28

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lift up your heads and see;  
your redemption is near at hand.

Alleluia!

### GOSPEL

Lk 21:5-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

*Your endurance will win you your life.*

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, 'All these things you are staring at now – the time

16 November 2025  
33rd Sunday - Yr C

**WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH**  
Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>  
Email: [westtamworthpaish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:westtamworthpaish@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 & Fri: 9.30 am - 1.30pm  
**Presbytery** 67658211  
Pastoral Associate 6765 8211  
St Josephs School 67654079

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

**CONFESIONS**  
\* Sat: 4.30-5.00pm

**WEEKDAY  
MASSES** Mon: No Mass Tues: No Mass Wed: No Mass \* Before weekly Mass  
Thurs: No Mass Fri: No Mass (Please see below) \* By appointment



**ENTRANCE  
ANTIPHON:** The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction.  
You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back  
our captives from every place.

**COMMUNION  
ANTIPHON:** To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Justin Blanch, Margaret Hudson, Norma Simmonds.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Mary McInnes (6/11), Antony John Croft (13/11), Perce McInnes (2/12).

**DECEASED:** We pray for our loved ones now in God's care, Barry Lane, Vincent Pendergast, Phil Eather, John Galloway, Patrick McBrearty, Pamela Davy, Barry Davy, Irene (Rene) Barry, Thomas Barry, Amelia (Gwen) Davy and all the faithful departed in our Remembrance Book.

**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, Jeanette Whale, Carmel Koppman, Barbara Brennan.

**MASSES BEING HELD IN TAMWORTH Mon 17th - Fri 21st November**

Fr John McHugh has kindly offered to stay in Tamworth during the Clergy Retreat and will celebrate Mass in the following locations:

**Monday, Wednesday & Friday:** 7am St Nicholas Church, Tamworth  
**Tuesday & Thursday:** 9am St Mary's Church, North Tamworth

**Tuesday:** 7am **Thursday:** 6pm St Marie Therese Church, Kootingal

**COMING EVENTS:**

17 - 21 Nov: Clergy Retreat - Available Masses printed above.  
18 - 24 Nov: Miniature Cathedral Pilgrimage - St Patrick's Parish  
23 Nov: Sr Kathryn Farewell Morning Tea - after 9am Mass  
30 Nov: First Sunday of Advent  
16 Dec: Parish Christmas Lunch - Calala Inn, starting at 12noon

**COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105**

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

1st. Collection: For Armidale Diocese Clergy: 001023642 (Presbytery Account)  
2nd Collection: For St. Patrick's Church: 001041198 (Church Account)



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

**NOVEMBER MASSES:** Envelopes are available at the back of the church for requests for November Masses to for deceased members of your family and/or friends. Please write **very clearly** as names will be displayed at the front of the church, next to Our Lady's Altar.

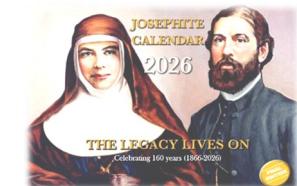
**FAREWELL MORNING TEA FOR SR KATHRYN:** Sr Kathryn will be leaving our Parish at the end of November. She is busy with preparations for her move to Dubbo and her last day in Tamworth will be Thursday 27th November. Please join us for morning tea next Sunday 23rd November, after 9am Mass. A small plate of food to share would be appreciated.

\*\*As we will miss Sr Kathryn's contribution to Saturday night Mass reading, we welcome any budding volunteers who would be happy to assist in this roster space. Thank you.

**CONGRATULATIONS TAMIKA LEE:** Tamika was received into the Catholic faith on Tuesday evening. We ask God to continue to strengthen her faith and shower her with his blessings.

**MINIATURE CATHEDRAL PILGRIMAGE:** St Patrick's Church is hosting the The Miniature Cathedral Pilgrimage this week. The church will be open on Mon, Wed & Fri mornings, should you wish to visit. St Joseph's School will also pilgrimage to the church, to see and hear about St Joseph's and Mary's Cathedral.

**JOSEPHITE CALENDARS 2026:** Orders are now being finalised for next year's Josephite calendars. This is the final year that these beautiful calendars will be available. They are marked "Final Edition" and numbers are strictly limited. Calendars are \$10 each, with payment due on delivery. Please speak with Cheryl Lavell if you wish to place an order.



**WANTED - A SMALL BOOKCASE:** We are looking for a small bookcase to place in the back of the church for our Lending Library. Please contact Barbara Brennan or the Parish Office if you have something that you think would be useful for this purpose. Thank you.

**IMMACULATA MISSION SCHOOL 2026:** Being held in Armidale from 01 - 07 January 2026 with programs for youth and young adults, married couples and families. For more information or to register, visit [www.immaculata.org.au/ims](http://www.immaculata.org.au/ims)

**ROSTER FOR: 16/11/25**

<b>Vigil:</b>	R: P Bamford	Sr Kathryn	<b>Gifts:</b>	S. Shulze, V. Griffiths
<b>9am Sun:</b>	R: S Brown,	M Donaldson	<b>Gifts:</b>	G & U McKay
<b>5pm Sun:</b>	R: G O'Toole,	C Lavell	<b>Gifts:</b>	Volunteer
<b>Counting:</b>	S Brown,	A. Bowden	<b>Altar Linen:</b>	J. Hutt
<b>Fri Cleaning</b>	J. Hutt,	J. Moran		

**ROSTER FOR: 23/11/25**

<b>Vigil:</b>	R: C Ledwos	D Bolitho	<b>Gifts:</b>	J & P Bamford
<b>9am Sun:</b>	R: J Ryan,	G Clout	<b>Gifts:</b>	Michelle & Sally
<b>5.00pm Sun:</b>	R: C Lavell,	Volunteer	<b>Gifts:</b>	Volunteer
<b>Counting Team :</b>	A. Bowden,	S. Brown	<b>Altar Linen:</b>	M. Vella
<b>Fri Cleaning</b>	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.

