

his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.'

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord,' he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you,' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him;

'You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

#### ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

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

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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY) / A

12 APRIL 2026

## THE GIFT OF PEACE

Today is the extension of Easter Sunday. It is such an important and central feast in our Liturgical calendar that we celebrate it for a whole week, and Easter itself, over six weeks. Today's Gospel from John is the appearance of the Risen Jesus to his frightened disciples. They have locked themselves in a room for fear of the religious authorities, that what happened to Jesus might also happen to them. To their surprise, the Risen One stands in their midst.

Three things now take place. First, Jesus speaks. His first words are 'Peace be with you.' These words gifted to John's audience are also gifted to us: the gift of peace, of 'shalom', heals all division. Second, Jesus sends his frightened disciples, now filled with joy, John notes, on mission. Their mission is the same as that of Jesus, 'As the Father sent me, so I send you.' And third, he breathes on the disciples. Jesus' breath, the symbolic presence of God's life and Holy Spirit, empowers the disciples to accomplish their Easter mission.

The final part of the Gospel is taken up with Thomas, his incredulity at the presence of the Risen Jesus reported to him by the others. When he is finally reconnected to the community of disciples—and this is the point of the story—Thomas, too, comes to Easter faith, declaring Jesus, 'My Lord and my God'. This beautiful Gospel underscores for us the presence of the Risen One amid our fears, his empowering of us, and our need to be always connected to our discipleship communities.

Fr Michael Trainor

## FIRST READING

Acts 2:42-47

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

*The faithful lived together and owned everything in common.*

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## RESP PSALM

Ps 117:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

**R. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting. (or Alleluia!)**

1. Let the sons of Israel say: / 'His love has no end.' / Let the sons of Aaron say: / 'His love has no end,' / Let those who fear the Lord say: / 'His love has no end.' **R.**

2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling / but the Lord was my helper. / The Lord is my strength and my song; / he was my saviour. / There are shouts of joy and victory / in the tents of the just. **R.**

3. The stone which the builders rejected / has become the corner stone. / This is the work of the Lord, / a marvel in our eyes. / This day was made by the Lord; / we rejoice and are glad. **R.**

## SECOND READING

1 Pet 1:3-9

**A reading from the first letter of St Peter**

*He has given us a new birth as his children, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead.*

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and



the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which had been prepared is revealed at the end of time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

#### ■ The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 20:29

**Alleluia, alleluia! / You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me; / happy those who have not seen me, but still believe! / Alleluia!**

## GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-31

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.**

*After eight days, Jesus came in and stood among them.*

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you,' and showed them

12 April 2026  
2nd Sunday  
Easter - Year A

## WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>  
Email: [westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au](mailto:westtamworthparish@armidale.catholic.org.au)



**Parish Priest** Fr Vic Ignacio M.S.  
**Office Admin** 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**  
**St Josephs School 67654079**

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

**WEEKDAY** Mon: 9am Tues: 9am Wed: 12noon  
**MASSES** Thurs: 9am Fri: 12noon

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, Alleluia.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving, but believing, Alleluia.

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Robert Green, Paul Hayes, Sr Arcadius Guthrie, Maurice Bruccoleri

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Rev Fr Bruce Macpherson (08/4).

**DECEASED:** We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Thomas Greentree, Dean York, Daphne Sweeney, Laurie Brodbeck, Ron McGrane, Paul Karam, Trish Thornberry, William Grima, Paul Zammit.

**SICK:** Sienna Baker, May Press, John Betts, Norma O'Brien, Elaine Murray, Shane Davidson, Sr Cecilia Pistacchio, Judy Murphy, Monica Austin, Brian Rodway, Lisa Bond, Yvonne Tarrant, Bill Dennis, Barry McNamara, Jeanette Whale, Carmel Koppman, Eileen Hudson, Rose Pace, Barbara Brennan, Elizabeth Coroneos, Michael Jones, Elizabeth William, Julie Moran.

### MEMORARE

Remember, Our Lady of La Salette, true Mother of Sorrows, the tears you shed for me on Calvary. Remember, also, the care you have always taken to keep me faithful to Christ your son. After having done so much for your child, you will not now abandon me. Inspired by this consoling thought, I come to cast myself at your feet in spite of my infidelities and ingratitude. Do not reject my prayer, O merciful Virgin, but intercede for my conversion, obtain for me the grace to love Jesus above all things, and to console you by a holy life, that I may one day see you in Heaven. Amen

**Our Lady of La Salette, Reconciler of sinners,  
Pray without ceasing for us who have recourse to Thee.**



### COMING EVENTS:

**12 Apr:** Divine Mercy Sunday - Personal devotion may be observed in the Church during the day.

**12 Apr:** Parish Monthly Morning Tea - After 9am Mass. All welcome!

**25 Apr:** Anzac Day

**26 Apr:** Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations

**05 May:** Mass for the Sick -12noon

### COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105

**Account:** West Tamworth Catholic - 'Presbytery' 1st Collection OR 'Church'-2nd Collection

**1st Collection:** For Armidale Diocese Clergy: Ac. 001023642 (Presbytery Acc.) for Diocese

**2nd Collection:** For St. Patrick's Church: Ac. 001041198 (Church Acc.) St Patrick's

### CONFESSIONS

\* Sat: 4.30 - 5.00pm

\* Before weekly Mass

\* By appointment

## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:** Since the year 2000, the universal Church has concluded the Octave of Easter by celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday. This great solemnity calls the faithful to rejoice in the merciful love of God as it is most profoundly manifested in the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ. Sister Mary Faustina Kowalska, born in 1905, was a cloistered nun of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Poland. On Feb. 22, 1931, Jesus first appeared to Sister Faustina.

### St. Faustina's Prayer for Sinners

O Jesus, eternal Truth, our Life, I call upon You and I beg Your mercy for poor sinners.

O sweetest Heart of my Lord, full of pity and unfathomable mercy, I plead with You for poor sinners.

O Most Sacred Heart, Fount of Mercy from which gush forth rays of inconceivable graces upon the entire human race, I beg of You, light for poor sinners. O Jesus, be mindful of Your own bitter Passion and do not permit the loss of souls redeemed at so dear a price of Your most precious Blood.

O Jesus, when I consider the great price of Your Blood, I rejoice at its immensity, for one drop alone would have been enough for the salvation of all sinners.

Although sin is an abyss of wickedness and ingratitude, the price paid for us can never be equaled.

Therefore, let every soul trust in the Passion of the Lord, and place its hope in His mercy.

God will not deny His mercy to anyone. Heaven and earth may change, but God's mercy will never be exhausted. Oh, what immense joy burns in my heart when I contemplate Your incomprehensible goodness, O Jesus! I desire to bring all sinners to Your feet that they may glorify Your mercy throughout endless ages.

(Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska, 72).

### Divine Mercy Service - St Nicholas Church 3pm Adoration, Confession and Divine Mercy Chaplet

**PARISH MORNING TEA & FELLOWSHIP:** Morning tea, after 9am Mass, this Sunday. Just a cup of tea and a chat with fellow parishioners. Please bring a small plate to share, if you wish.

**RCIA PROGRAM:** At the Easter Vigil, we welcomed five candidates into the Catholic faith. Please pray for them, their families and their sponsors. The RCIA program is available all year. If you are considering becoming a Catholic or would like to know more, please speak with Fr Vic.

**HOLY WATER CONTAINERS:** Reminder, Holy Water is still available to take home. Please bring your own container as our church supplies have been exhausted.

**PROJECT COMPASSION: THANK YOU!** Caritas Australia sincerely thanks you for your generous support of Project Compassion this Lent. If you still have your Project Compassion box or donation envelope at home, please return it next week at Mass to the basket in the middle of the Church (near the gifts). Every contribution, no matter the size, helps to bring hope and opportunity to people experiencing poverty and injustice. Together, we are Uniting Against Poverty and walking alongside vulnerable communities as they build stronger, more sustainable futures.

**NEW ROSTERS COMING SOON:** Thank you to those who responded to our call for additional Volunteers for Church Cleaning and helping with our monthly Morning Tea. New rosters will be updated and prepared in the coming weeks.

### ROSTER: 12/04/26

<b>Vigil:</b>	<b>R:</b> J. Woodbridge, D. Bolitho	<b>Gifts:</b>	J & P Bamford
<b>9am Sun:</b>	<b>R:</b> S Nichols, A Sartori	<b>Gifts:</b>	Michelle & Sally
<b>5.00pm Sun:</b>	<b>R:</b> S. Brown	<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		

### ROSTER: 19/04/26

<b>Vigil:</b>	<b>R:</b> M. Holland, N Pullman	<b>Gifts:</b>	K. O'Brien, M. Asbury
<b>9am Sun:</b>	<b>R:</b> S Brown, D. Gowing	<b>Gifts:</b>	A & S Vueti
<b>5.00pm Sun:</b>	<b>R:</b> Volunteer	<b>Gifts:</b>	Volunteer
<b>Counting Team :</b>	G & M Thrift	<b>Altar Linen:</b>	E. Smyth
<b>Fri Cleaning</b>	S. Brown, V. Griffiths		

