

Nazareth' they answered 'who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free. And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.'

Then he said to them, 'You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?' Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. 'It is nearly evening' they said 'and the day is almost over.' So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at the table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them. And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?'

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, 'Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.' Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

■ **The Gospel of the Lord.**

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

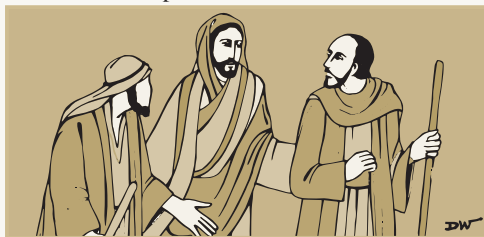
19 APRIL 2026

A SYDNODAL JOURNEY

Last Sunday we encountered the Risen Jesus breathing his gift of peace and Spirit on to his fearful disciples. As we continue our celebration of Easter, our attention turns to Luke's story of the Risen Jesus accompanying two frightened disciples on their journey towards a small village, Emmaus, several kilometres from Jerusalem. For Luke, Jerusalem is the centre and birthplace of discipleship. The two are walking away from Jerusalem, their conviction of Jesus' rescue of them shattered by the events that have unfolded, especially his crucifixion by the political and religious leaders. Unbeknown to them, the Risen Jesus walks with them on their journey and asks them what they are talking about. They are confused by the story being circulated about the emptiness of Jesus' tomb.

This is such a rich story and space prevents its detailed examination. What is clear is that this is the Gospel for the synodal journey of the Church: The Risen One walks with us in the midst of our confusions and struggles, wanting to listen to us, as we each tell our stories. And, just as the two struggling disciples come to recognise Jesus in the 'breaking of bread' (Luke's favourite expression for the Eucharist), we, too, come to realise the presence of the Risen Jesus in our weekly celebration of our local Eucharist.

This realisation for the two at Emmaus empowers them to return to Jerusalem, take up again the mission of discipleship, and reconnect to those assembled. What happens next provides the impetus for Luke's second volume, the Acts of the Apostles and the story of the spread of the Good News throughout the Roman Empire.



Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Acts 2:14, 22-33

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

It was impossible for him to be held by the power of Hades.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: 'Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always, / for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me. / So my heart was glad / and my tongue cried out with joy: / my body, too, will rest in the hope / that you will not abandon my soul to Hades / nor allow your holy one to experience corruption. / You have made known the way of life to me, / you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

'Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God's right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.'

■ **The word of the Lord.**

RESP PSALM

Ps 15:1-2, 5, 7-11. R. v. 11

R. Lord, you will show us the path of life. (or *Alleluia!*)

1. Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you. / I say to the Lord: 'You are my God.' / O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup; / it is you yourself who are my prize. **R.**
2. I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel, / who even at night directs my heart. / I keep the Lord ever in my sight: / since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **R.**

3. And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad; / even my body shall rest in safety. / For you will not leave my soul among the dead, / nor let your beloved know decay. **R.**

4. You will show me the path of life, / the fullness of joy in your presence, / at your right hand happiness for ever. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 1:17-21

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

The ransom that was paid to free you was the blood of the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home. Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake. Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

■ **The word of the Lord.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf. Lk 24:32

Alleluia, alleluia! / Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us: / make our hearts burn with love when you speak. / Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Lk 24:13-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

They recognised him at the breaking of the bread.

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, 'What matters are you discussing as you walk along?' They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, 'You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.' 'What things?' he asked. 'All about Jesus of

19 April 2026
3rd Sunday
Easter - Year A

WELCOME TO ST PATRICK'S CHURCH

Website: <https://stpatrickswesttamworthparish.org>
Email: 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: No Mass Fri: 12noon

ENTRANCE ANTI PHON: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTI PHON: The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread,
Alleluia.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Beverly Heazlett, Shirley Hill, Bob Silver, Robert Green, Sr Arcadius Guthrie, Paul Hayes

ANNIVERSARIES: Rev Fr Bruce Macpherson (08/4), Harry Cunningham (30/4).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Maurice Bruccoleri, Dean York, Thomas Greentree, Daphne Sweeney, Laurie Brodbeck, Ron McGrane, Paul Karam.

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:

- 20 Apr:** School Resumes
- 24 Apr:** Adoration - 11am
- 25 Apr:** Anzac Day - Mass at 8am
- 26 Apr:** Good Shepherd Sunday - World Day of Prayer for Vocations
- 06 May:** Mass for the Sick - 12noon

COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105

Account: West Tamworth Catholic - 'Presbytery' 1st Coll'n **OR** 'Church'-2nd Coll'n
1st. Collection: Armidale Diocese Clergy : Ac. 001023642 (**Presbytery Acc. Diocese**)
2nd Collection: For St. Patrick's Church : Ac. 001041198 (**Church Acc. St Patrick's**)

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A
WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

RCIA PROGRAM: At the Easter Vigil, we welcomed five candidates into the Catholic faith. Please pray for them, their families and sponsors. The RCIA program is available all year. If you're considering becoming a Catholic or 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 for your generosity with cash donations giving close to \$700 this year. Donations are still being accepted and online donations also possible.

[Make a Donation Online | Support Caritas Australia - Charity Donations](#)

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. We are forever grateful. We are always in need of readers and some to bring up the gifts during Mass. Training can be provided. For those joining or already giving their time and commitment, the new rosters will be updated and prepared in the coming weeks. We Thank you.

IGNITE CONFERENCE 2026: You are invited to join in four days of unforgettable Catholic speakers, music, dance, sacraments, workshops and worship. The Ignite Conference will be held in Sydney this year (Broken Bay host) at St Leo's College Waitara from Thursday 9th July through to Sunday Lunch 12 July 2026. A national Catholic conference - a conference for everyone and particularly the young, - the Church gathered and alive - God's people united with one heart. Each day is faith based. Each day, the conference elements are designed to be inviting, inspirational and allow people to encounter a real and present God in their midst. To register visit www.igniteconference.com.au/sydney. Early bird fees are available up to 27 March 2026. Under 18 Ignite Youth requires an adult to complete any registration. Tickets are \$135 - Kids; \$335 - Adults, with late fees applying after 27 June. St Patricks would like to assist youth participants in some way should any be interested. Please speak to Fr Vic.



CATHOLIC WEEKLY: *Sydney-based Chaldean archbishop elected global patriarch; * Vinnies Vans boosted by \$250,000 donation; * Light to the Nations retreat draws 1,200 young people; * US bioethicist warns of risks posed by AI; * Thoughts on the legacy of Pope Francis.

ROSTER: 19/04/26

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

ROSTER: 26/04/26

Vigil:	R: C Ledwos, D Bolitho	Gifts:	A & C Lyons
9am Sun:	R: M Holley, R. Paull	Gifts:	B. Schipp, C. Grima
5.00pm Sun:	R: S. Brown	Gifts:	Volunteer
Counting Team :	P. Sheils, S. Brown	Altar Linen:	H. Reid
Fri Cleaning	M. Brown, K. O'Brien		