

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

I shall ask the Father and he will give you another Advocate.

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate

to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive

since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans;

I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer

see me;

but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day

you will understand that I am in my Father

and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments

and keeps them

will be one who loves me

and anybody who loves me will be loved by

my Father,

and I shall love him and show myself to him.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER / A

10 MAY 2026

THE SPIRIT IS WITH US

Last week it was worry. Today it is about loneliness. We know loneliness. We know what it feels like, for example, when someone close to us dies. Grief, sadness and loneliness can be palpable. In today’s Gospel, John invites us again to draw closer to Jesus who addresses the loneliness which the disciples (and, at times, ourselves) can experience. When we feel God’s apparent silence or absence, when we deal with death or tragedy, Jesus promises ‘another Advocate’. This is the promise of his very Spirit that will remain with the disciples when he physically leaves them.

By the time John writes, this is already a reality and Jesus’ spirit, the Advocate, the ‘Spirit of Truth’, is with them and ‘forever’. They will not be left orphaned as the Spirit accompanies them in every generation to experience his eternal and real, though non-physical, presence. But there is a second promise that Jesus makes. He will return as he offers an eschatological vision, an insight into the final days, in which the disciples will experience their communion and intimacy with God restored. They will discover a love that is eternal and carry them through those days of loneliness.

This is the promise that we need to hear, especially as we grapple with our experiences of loneliness brought on by grief of our beloved dead or the persistent loneliness of life that surrounds us. Jesus’ Advocate, his Spirit, is with us.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town.

When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 65:1-7, 16, 20. R. cf. v. 2

R. Let all the earth cry out to God with joy. (or Alleluia!)

1. Cry out with joy to God all the earth, / O sing to the glory of his name. / O render him glorious praise. / Say to God: ‘How tremendous your deeds!’ **R.**

2. ‘Before you all the earth shall bow; / shall sing to you, sing to your name!’ / Come and see the works of God, / tremendous his deeds among men. **R.**

3. He turned the sea into dry land, / they passed through the river dry-shod. / Let our joy then be in him; / he rules for ever by his might. **R.**



4. Come and hear, all who fear God. / I will tell what he did for my soul: / Blessed be God who did not reject my prayer / nor withhold his love for me. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Pet 3:15-18

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 14:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,
and my Father will love them and we will
come to them.

Alleluia!

10 May 2026
6th 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: No Mass Wed: 12noon
MASSES Thurs: 9am (St Matthias) Fri: 12noon

CONFESSIONS

* Sat: 4.30 - 5.00pm
* Before weekly Mass
* By appointment

ENTRANCE Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth:
ANTIPHON: The Lord has freed his people, Alleluia.

COMMUNION If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father
ANTIPHON: and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you forever, Alleluia.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Irene Brown, Beverly Heazlett, Shirley Hill, Bob Silver.

ANNIVERSARIES: Anna Vu (26/4) Harry Cunningham (30/4), Peg MacRae (4/05).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Maurice Bruccoleri, Dean York, Thomas Greentree, Robert Green, Paul Karam, Dalis O'Brien.

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, Julie Moran, Barbara Brennan, Elizabeth Coroneos, Michael Jones, Elizabeth William, Veronica Frost.

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:

May: Fr Vic will be away for the month.

10 May: Parish Morning Tea & Mother's Day (Setup - S. Brown & R. Paull)

15 May: Adoration 11am, followed by Mass at 12noon

27 May: St Joseph's School Morning Tea, 10:30am in the School Hall. All are welcome!!!

03 June: Mass for the Sick

09 June: First Reconciliation Parent Information Session - 5pm, in the Church

COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105

Account: West Tamworth Catholic - 'Presbytery' for 1st Coll'n OR 'Church' for 2nd Coll'n

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

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

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

Happy Mothers Day - Please take a prayer card as our gift

A PRAYER IN GRATITUDE FOR OUR MOTHERS

Good and Gentle God, we pray in gratitude for our mothers
and for all the women who have joined with you in the wonder of bringing forth new life.
You who became human through a woman; Grant to all mothers the courage they need
to face the uncertain future that life with children always brings.
Give them the strength to live and to be loved in return, not perfectly, but humanly.
Give them the support of family and friends as they care for the physical
and spiritual growth of their children. Give them joy and delight in their children
to sustain them through the trials of motherhood.
Most of all, give them the wisdom to turn to you for help when they need it most.

Author Unknown

ARRANGEMENTS DURING FR VIC'S LEAVE: We wish Fr Vic a safe and restful leave period and we thank Fr John Curran for providing weekend and daily masses for us during this time. Please note, there will be no Tuesday Mass during May. Please check the Bulletin for any other changes.

PIOUS GOODS TABLE: Last opportunity for a special, one-of-a-kind gift for Mother's Day. Please take a moment to visit the Pious Goods table at the back of the Church, where you will find many beautiful hand-made gifts, thanks to our generous and talented crafters.

GROTTO WORKING BEE: Work has begun! The altar in front of Our Lady's statue will be cleared and cleaned. The statue and surround will be cleaned and repainted. Please claim any personal items from the altar as soon as possible. Anything remaining will be relocated to gardens off to the side. Please contact the office if you wish to assist with this activity.

MACKILLOP ROOM: Named in honour of St Mary Mackillop, an area at the back of the Church will be reconfigured to create an enclosed space that can serve as a reflection refuge and an area where our little ones can move a little more freely during Mass. There will be no loss of current seating, or other usable space, and it is hoped it will create a quiet area for all to utilise and to pray. Feedback on this proposal is welcome and should be forwarded to Fr Vic (upon his return) or the Parish office.

INVITATION TO ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL HIGH TEA: The Staff and Students of St Joseph's extend a special invitation to all Parishioners to join them for High (Morning) Tea on May 27th at 10:30am, to celebrate Catholic Schools Week. All are welcome. Please RSVP to the Parish office by Monday 25th May, for catering purposes. Hope to see you there!

ROSTER: 10/05/26

Vigil:

9am Sun:

5.00pm Sun:

Counting Team :

Fri Cleaning

ROSTER: 17/05/26

Vigil:

9am Sun:

5.00pm Sun:

Counting Team :

Fri Cleaning

R: C Ledwos, D Bolitho

R: J Ryan, G Clout

R C Lavell,

A Bowden, S. Brown

M. Vella & I. Ullman

R: N Pullman, P Bamford

R: A Sartori, R. Paull

R: A O'Halloran

G & M Thrift

S. Brown, V. Griffiths

Gifts: S Shulze, V Griffiths

Gifts: Michelle & Sally

Gifts: Volunteer

Altar Linen: M Vella

Gifts: J & P Bamford

Gifts: A & S Vueti

Gifts: Volunteer

Altar Linen: E. Smyth

