

it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful
and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL

Jn 20:19-23

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

As the Father sent me, so I send you: Receive the Holy Spirit.

In the evening of 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 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.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

PENTECOST SUNDAY / A

24 MAY 2026

PEACE BE WITH YOU

In today's story from John, set on Easter day, Jesus' disciples are frightened. The doors of the room where they gather are locked. They are frightened of the religious authorities. Perhaps they think that what happened to their hero, Jesus, might also happen to them. Into the midst of their fear and locked room, the Risen Jesus comes. His first words are of peace, 'Peace be with you'. This is more than a statement to be calm and not frightened. It is Jesus' gift of wholeness, of *shalom* (Hebrew). It is his prayerful gift for them to come to a deep spirit of internal communion and calmness trusting in his presence.

It is this fearful group of disciples that Jesus commissions to be on mission—a theme familiar from Matthew's Gospel last week: The future of the Jesus movement is not entrusted to a comfortable, secure and fully integrated group of leaders. It is to a group of ordinary, struggling people that the mission is given. But they are not alone in this. Jesus' breath is the externalisation of his presence and being. This is given to the disciples who imbue his spirit, calming them, and giving them the confidence to reveal God's communion with all, despite their foibles or spiritual struggles.

This is the spirit that forgives 'sin'—that experience or marker of disruption, dis-ease and fear. Jesus' breath, received by the Eleven is about to permeate the cosmos through the commissioned ministry and reaffirmed in John's Pentecost story.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Acts 2:1-11

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak different languages.

When Pentecost day came round, the apostles had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM

Ps 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34. R. v. 30

R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (or Alleluia!)

1. Bless the Lord, my soul! / Lord God, how great you are! / How many are your works,
O Lord! / The earth is full of your riches. **R.**



2. You take back your spirit, they die, / returning to the dust from which they came. / You send forth your spirit, they are created; / and you renew the face of the earth. **R.**
3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever! / May the Lord rejoice in his works! / May my thoughts be pleasing to him. / I find my joy in the Lord. **R.**

SECOND READING

1 Cor 12:3-7, 12-13

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

In the one Spirit we were all baptised, making one body.

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose.

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so

24 May 2026
Pentecost Sunday
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 Mon: 9am (Our Lady, Help of Christians)
WEEKDAY Tues: **No Mass** Wed: 12noon
MASSES Thurs: 9am Fri: 12noon

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

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world, and that which contains all things understands what is said, Alleluia.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke of the marvels of God, Alleluia.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Jean Wellwood, Julie Michell, Beverly Heazlett, Shirley Hill, Bob Silver.

ANNIVERSARIES: Peg MacRae (4/5), Joan Clout (12/5), Hugh O'Brien (18/5), Noeline Turner (19/5), Sandy Murray (22/05), John Haggart (11/6).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Irene Brown, 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, Elizabeth Coroneos, Michael Jones, Elizabeth William, Veronica Frost, Mary Gallaher, Beryl Flood and retired Diocesan Clergy.

Pentecost Sunday

Pentecost Sunday marks the end of the Easter Season. It commemorates not only the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and Disciples, but also the effects of that event; the completion of the work of redemption, the fullness of grace for the Church and its people, and the gift of faith for all nations.



COMING EVENTS:

25 May: Our Lady, Help of Christians - Solemnity - 9am Mass
25 - 29 May: Catholic Schools Week
27 May: St Joseph's School Morning Tea has been cancelled
29 May: Adoration 11am, followed by Mass at 12noon
03 June: Mass for the Sick
09 June: First Reconciliation Parent Information Session - 5pm, in the Church.

COLLECTIONS: BSB: 082 105 - For electronic bank transfer donations

For St. Patrick's Church : Ac. 001041198 West Tamworth Catholic Church (Local)
For Armidale Diocese Clergy : Ac. 001023642 West Tamworth Presbytery (Diocese)

PENTECOST SUNDAY - YEAR A WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.



MARY OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS FEAST DAY: Patron of our Diocese and Patron of our Country, on this very special day we offer prayers of thanksgiving and intentions. You are encouraged to make all efforts to attend Mass on Monday 25th May at 9am for this special Feast Day.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL HIGH TEA: Unfortunately, due to a lack of response, this event has been cancelled.

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: There are still a number of beautiful gifts available on the Pious Goods table at the back of the Church. Most of the goods are handmade and donated by our generous crafters. Please feel free to browse, and we thank you for your support. Electronic payment for goods can be made to St Patrick's Church A/c BSB: 082-105 A/c No:001041198

GROTTO WORKING BEE: Work is underway! The altar in front of Our Lady's statue has been cleared and cleaned. Remaining plants/pots have been relocated to gardens off to the side and the roses will be relocated to a sunnier position. Stage 2 is the cleaning and repainting of the statue and surrounds. Thank you to all those who offered and provided their assistance, so far.

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. Feedback on this proposal is welcome and should be forwarded to Fr Vic (upon his return) or to the Parish office.

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.**



ROSTER: 24/05/26

Vigil:	R: J Woodbridge, D Bolitho	Gifts:	K O'Brien, M Asbury
9am Sun:	R: S Nichols, A Sartori	Gifts:	B Schipp, C Grima
5.00pm Sun:	R: Volunteer	Gifts:	Volunteer
Counting Team :	P Sheils, S Brown	Altar Linen:	H Reid
Fri Cleaning	M Brown, K O'Brien		

ROSTER: 31/05/26

Vigil:	R: M Holland, N Pullman	Gifts:	A & C Lyons
9am Sun:	R: S Brown, D Gowing	Gifts:	G & U McKay
5.00pm Sun:	R: T Mitchell	Gifts:	Volunteer
Counting Team :	M Vella, A Bowden	Altar Linen:	J Hutt
Fri Cleaning	J Hutt, J Moran		