

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

He summoned his twelve disciples, and sent them out.

When Jesus saw the crowds he felt sorry for them because they were harassed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is rich but the labourers are few, so ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest.’

He summoned his twelve disciples, and gave them authority over unclean spirits with power to cast them out and cure all kinds of diseases and sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew; James the son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas, and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Zealot and Judas Iscariot, the one who was to betray him. These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them as follows:

‘Do not turn your steps to pagan territory, and do not enter any Samaritan town; go rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is close at hand. Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out devils. You received without charge, give without charge.’

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

Breaking Open the Word



THE SAVING WORD

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

14 JUNE 2026

WRENCHED BY PITY

After the celebration of Easter and the Feasts that immediately follow, we now return to the Gospel of Matthew. We come to a scene set after Jesus’ great teaching in the ‘Sermon on the Mount’. In the Sermon he taught the essential qualities of discipleship (‘the Beatitudes’) and how to live these out daily. Now we come to Jesus’ teaching in action. He sees the crowd surrounding him and Matthew says ‘he felt sorry for them’. The Greek for ‘felt sorry’ (*splagnizomai*) means something more powerful. ‘Pity’ doesn’t quite capture the meaning of Matthew’s intent. The Greek root is linked to one’s innards or ‘guts’. Jesus’ response to this group of harassed and dejected individuals is visceral. His innards are twisted because of what they are experiencing.

For this reason, the rest of the Gospel passage has Jesus sending his disciples on mission to respond to the tragic and forlorn experience of those who need to encounter the message of the ‘kin-dom’. Twelve are especially selected. We are given their names and they enact Jesus’ desire to renew the twelve tribes of Israel. Given the Jewish audience addressed by Matthew, they ratify this renewal through their proclamation of the ‘kin-dom’ and deeds of healing. Their focus is specifically to the ‘lost’ sheep of Israel. They are to care about those who are lost in spirit, need healing and are looking to be included in Jesus’ household of disciples.

Today’s Gospel lays the foundation for what will become the ‘synodal’ approach of our Church today. We are to walk with and identify the ‘lost’ in our communities and parishes. This is our missionary focus. This is the primary mission of the synodal Church.

Fr Michael Trainor

FIRST READING

Ex 19: 2-6

A reading from the book of Exodus.

You will be a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.

From Rephidim the Israelites set out again; and when they reached the wilderness of Sinai, there in the wilderness they pitched their camp; there facing the mountain Israel pitched camp.

Moses then went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, ‘Say this to the House of Jacob, declare this to the sons of Israel, “You yourselves have seen what I did with the Egyptians, how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. From this you know that now, if you obey my voice and hold fast to my covenant, you of all the nations shall be my very own, for all the earth is mine. I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation.”’

■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 99: 2-3, 5. R. v. 3

R. We are his people: the sheep of his flock.

1. Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. / Serve the Lord with gladness. / Come before him, singing for joy. **R.**

2. Know that he, the Lord, is God. / He made us, we belong to him, / we are his people, the sheep of his flock. **R.**

3. Indeed, how good is the Lord, / eternal his merciful love. / He is faithful from age to age. **R.**

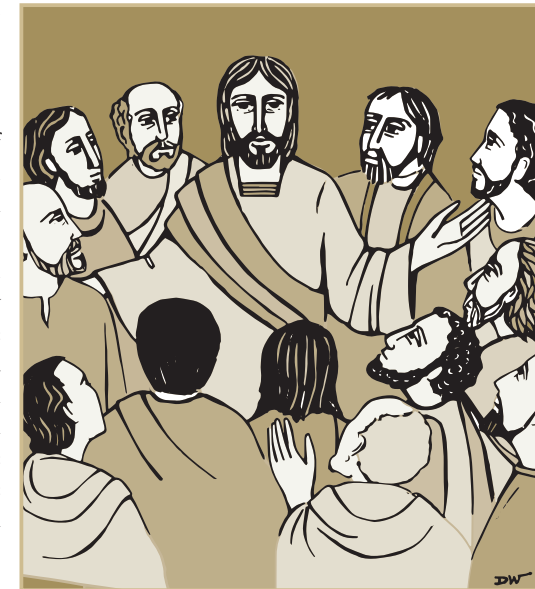
SECOND READING

Rom 5: 6-11

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

We have been reconciled to God through the death of his Son; we are saved by his life.

We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die even for a good man – though of



course for someone really worthy, a man might be prepared to die – but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners. Having died to make us righteous, is it likely that he would now fail to save us from God’s anger? When we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, we were still enemies; now that we have been reconciled surely we may count on being saved by the life of his Son? Not merely because we have been reconciled but because we are filled with joyful trust in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have already gained our reconciliation.

■ The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mk 1: 15

Alleluia, alleluia! / The kingdom of God is near; / repent and believe the Good News! / Alleluia!

A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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14 June 2026
11th 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 MASSES Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9am & 5pm

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

ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help.
Do not abandon or forsake me, O God, my Saviour.

COMMUNION ANTI-PHON: There is one thing I ask of the Lord, only this do I seek:
To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

May God have mercy on all those asked to be remembered in prayer:
RECENTLY DECEASED: Jean Wellwood, Julie Michell, Pat Jones, Elliot Gill.

ANNIVERSARIES: Paul Karam (06/6), Pat Smyth (07/6), John Haggart (11/6), Noelene Freestone (16/6), Cheryl Moloney (17/6), Grant D'Elboux (21/6), Bob Sutton (29/6).

DECEASED: We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Irene Brown, Beverly Heazlett, Shirley Hill, Bob Silver, Maurice Bruccoleri.

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, Enid Wright, Dailas Fester, Ruby New and retired Diocesan Clergy.



THE HARVEST IS RICH.

Aware of the vast numbers of people who were harassed and dejected, Jesus called the twelve apostles to share in his mission. They were to do the same works as Jesus, healing the sick and Proclaiming the kingdom of Heaven. Christ still needs helpers to share in his mission.
At the end of each Mass, Christ sends us out to love and serve God and one another.

COMING EVENTS:

14 June: Parish Morning Tea after 9am Mass
19 June: Adoration 11am, followed by Mass at 12noon
30 June: First Reconciliation - St Patrick's Church (further details to be advised)
01 July: St Carlos Acutis Relic Visit - St Patricks Church (See opposite)
12 July: Parish Morning Tea after 9am Mass

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)

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A WELCOME TO ALL THOSE JOINING US AT ST PATRICKS.

PARISH MORNING TEA: Please join Father Vic for a cuppa and a chat this Sunday after 9am Mass. A small plate to share would be most welcome.

URGENT REQUEST FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL: St Patrick's Conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society is desperately seeking volunteers to visit the sick and elderly in our Parish. If you are able to assist, enquiries can be made by contacting Cheryl Backhouse on 0428 317 819 or Paul Crayn 0400 301 593.

SAINT CARLO ACUTIS MAJOR RELIC MISSION TO THE DIOCESE: A description of this relic has been printed and placed on the Notice Board at the entrance to the Church. The First Class pilgrim relic is 6cm x 2cm, and preserved in a reliquary 33cm x 17cm, and is carried worldwide by the Diocese of Assisi, as custodian of the relics of Carlo Acutis, and respecting Church guidelines. The Relic is a section of the Saint's pericardium, the membrane that surrounds the heart. The heart is the body's most important organ; it is also the seat of our sentiments and actions. From the heart is born and lives our relationship with the Lord: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart" (Dt 6,5, Mt 22,37). The Relic is scheduled to arrive at West Tamworth on Wednesday 1st July, with a Welcome and Holy Mass set for 9am. Veneration and confession and a viewing of a documentary on Carlo Acutis will follow, along with morning tea. The Relic will then be moving to South Tamworth from approximately 12.30pm, for the afternoon.



PIOUS GOODS UPDATE: Brown Scapulas are now in stock. \$8 each.

EUCHARIST 28 UPDATE – HEARTS SET ABLAZE!: The International Eucharistic Congress in Sydney in 2028 ('Eucharist28') will be a global gathering of the Church centred on the Eucharist, the source and summit of our Christian lives, culminating in a Papal Mass with Pope Leo XIV. It will be a festival of faith, rich with worship, prayer, testimonies, art, music – a truly 'once in a lifetime' experience, and a transformative moment for our nation. Information is on the notice board at the Church entrance.

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: 14/06/26

Vigil: R: M. Holland, D Bolitho
9am Sun: R: M Donaldson, S. Brown
5.00pm Sun: R: G O'Toole,
Counting Team : G & M Thrift
Fri Cleaning S. Brown, V. Griffiths

ROSTER: 21/06/26

Vigil: R: C Ledwos, P Bamford
9am Sun: R: J Ryan, G Clout
5.00pm Sun: R C Lavell,
Counting Team : P. Sheils, S. Brown
Fri Cleaning M. Brown, K. O'Brien

Gifts: S. Shulze, V. Griffiths
Gifts: A & S Vueti
Gifts:
Altar Linen: E. Smyth

Gifts: J & P Bamford
Gifts: B. Schipp, C. Grima
Gifts:
Altar Linen: H. Reid