

Alleluia, alleluia! / The Spirit of Truth will bear witness to me, says the Lord, / and you also will be my witnesses. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 10: 26-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Do not fear those who can kill the body.*

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Do not be afraid. For everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the daylight; what you hear in whispers, proclaim from the house-tops.

'Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one falls to the ground without your Father knowing. Why, every hair on your head has been counted. So there is no need to be afraid; you are worth more than hundreds of sparrows.

'So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven. But the one who disowns me in the presence of men, I will disown in the presence of my Father in heaven.'

■ The Gospel of the Lord.

# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

21 JUNE 2026

## DIVINE PRESENCE

The instruction to the Twelve that concluded last Sunday's Gospel continues today. Again, the Gospel offers us a missionary mandate and insight. The mission is essentially optimistic because 'everything that is now covered will be uncovered, and everything now hidden will be made clear.' No way of life for the disciples, of their missionary commitment and engagement will be lost. It may appear to be covered and hidden but, ultimately and eventually, God's goodness and the work of the 'kin-dom' will be revealed. No longer will the message of the Gospel be spoken in the dark or whispered. It will be proclaimed from the housetops!

The affirmation of the fruitfulness of the missionary task spills over into the way God will care for those on mission—and this is what is addressed also to us: We are looked after by God, in every detail of our lives. As Matthew puts it in the final verses of today's Gospel, Jesus will affirm us before God.

There is one translation point worth noting in today's Gospel. What is translated about God's care of even the sparrows, which is translated as 'yet not one falls to the ground without your Father *knowing*', is better and more accurately translated, 'and not one of them falls to the earth *without your Father*'. It is not about God's knowledge of the falling sparrow, it is the very *presence* of God accompanying the falling or dying sparrow that is affirmed. That same God accompanies us. There is nothing in our life that happens without God's presence intimately caring for us. God is joined to us in intimate care and accompaniment. This God we celebrate today in our liturgy!

Fr Michael Trainor

## FIRST READING

Jer 20: 10-13

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

*He has delivered the soul of the needy from the hands of those who are evil.*

Jeremiah said:

I hear so many disparaging me,  
' "Terror from every side!"  
Denounce him! Let us denounce him!  
All those who used to be my friends  
watched for my downfall,  
'Perhaps he will be seduced into error.  
Then we will master him  
and take our revenge!  
But the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero;  
my opponents will stumble, mastered,  
confounded by their failure;  
everlasting, unforgettable disgrace will be  
theirs.  
But you, Lord of Hosts, you who probe with  
justice,  
who scrutinise the loins and heart,  
let me see the vengeance you will take on  
them,  
for I have committed my cause to you.  
Sing to the Lord,  
praise the Lord,  
for he has delivered the soul of the needy  
from the hands of evil men.

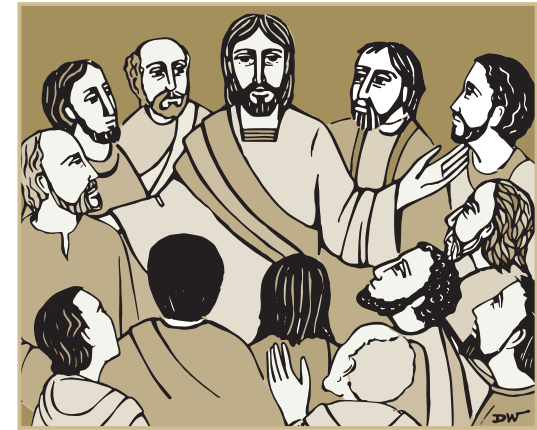
■ The word of the Lord.

RESP PSALM Ps 68: 8-10, 14, 17, 33-35. R. v. 14

**R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

1. It is for you that I suffer taunts, / that shame covers my face, / that I have become a stranger to my brothers, / an alien to my own mother's sons. / I burn with zeal for your house / and taunts against you fall on me. **R.**

2. This is my prayer to you, / my prayer for your favour. / In your great love, answer me, O God, / with your help that never fails: / Lord, answer, for your love is kind; / in your compassion, turn towards me. **R.**



3. The poor when they see it will be glad / and God-seeking hearts will revive; / for the Lord listens to the needy; / and does not spurn his servants in their chains. / Let the heavens and the earth give him praise, / the sea and all its living creatures. **R.**

## SECOND READING

Rom 5: 12-15

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

*God's gift to us is nothing like our sin against him.*

Sin entered the world through one man, and through sin death, and thus death has spread through the whole human race because everyone has sinned. Sin existed in the world long before the Law was given. There was no law and so no one could be accused of the sin of 'law-breaking', yet death reigned over all from Adam to Moses, even though their sin, unlike that of Adam, was not a matter of breaking a law.

Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall. If it is certain that through one man's fall so many died, it is even more certain that divine grace, coming through the one man, Jesus Christ, came to so many as an abundant free gift.

■ The word of the Lord.

## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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21 June 2026  
12th Sunday  
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:** 9am & 5pm

### MASSES

**Mon:** 9am (Sts John Fisher & Thomas More) **Tues:** 9am

**WEEKDAY Wed:** 12noon (The Nativity of St John The Baptist)

**MASSES Thurs:** 9am **Fri:** 12noon

**ENTRANCE ANTIPTHON:** The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed.

**ANTIPHON:** Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

**COMMUNION ANTIPTHON:** The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

### ANTIPHON:

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Julie Michell, Pat Jones

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Paul Karam (06/6), Pat Smyth (07/6), John Haggart (11/6), Noelene Freestone (16/6), Cheryl Moloney (17/6), Nancy Daly (19/6), Grant D'Elboux (21/6), Stan Blanch Jnr & Michael Blanch (24/6), Stan Blanch Snr (29/6), Bob Sutton (29/6).

**DECEASED:** We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Jean Wellwood.

**SICK:** Sienna Baker, May Press, John Betts, Norma O'Brien, Elaine Murray, Shane Davidson, Lisa Bond, Sr Cecilia Pistacchio, Judy Murphy, Monica Austin, Brian Rodway, Yvonne Tarrant, Barry McNamara, Bill Dennis, Jeanette Whale, Carmel Koppman, Eileen Hudson, Julie Moran, Elizabeth Coroneos, Michael Jones, Elizabeth William, Veronica Frost, Mary Gallaher, Beryl Flood, Enid Wright, Doalis Fester, Ruby New, Michelle Asbury, Jacinta Bentley, Fr Bernie Frize and retired Diocesan Clergy.

### DO NOT BE AFRAID

In the face of many attacks, Jesus courageously proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom. His courage stemmed from his firm belief in the Father's love for him. May we also be courageous witnesses to the values of the Gospel, knowing that God's love for us far outweighs any opposition we may encounter.



### COMING EVENTS:

**26 June:** Adoration 11am, followed by Mass at 12noon

**28 June:** Peter's Pence Collection

**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)**

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

**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 to Cheryl Backhouse on 0428 317 819 or Paul Crayn on 0400 301 593. SVDP Annual Winter Appeal will be held at St Patrick's 11/12 July. Funds remain in your local area.

**SAINT CARLO ACUTIS MAJOR RELIC MISSION TO THE DIOCESE 1 JULY:** 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 Scapulars are now in stock. \$8 each.

**URGENT NEED FOR READERS FOR SUNDAY NIGHTS:** If you feel you can help in this ministry, please leave your name and contact details with the Sacristan on duty or call the Parish Office.

**EUCCHARIST28 - Free online Catechesis with Archbishop Anthony Fisher on Eucharistic Miracles, Tuesday 30 June at 7:30pm via Zoom:** In preparation for Eucharist28, a national catechetical series called Didasko (to teach) is being offered live online, most of these cost, however, the above event is free.

To register as an individual or parish, click on the link below or type the website address into your browser.

<https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing/1534102>

More Information regarding Eucharist28 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: 21/06/26

**Vigil:**

**9am Sun:**

**5.00pm Sun:**

**Counting Team :**

**Fri Cleaning**

### ROSTER: 28/06/26

**Vigil:**

**9am Sun:**

**5.00pm Sun:**

**Counting Team :**

**Fri Cleaning**

**R:** C Ledwos, Di Bolitho

**R:** J Ryan, G Clout

**R** S. Brown,

P. Sheils, S. Brown

M. Brown, K. O'Brien

**R:** N Pullman, P Bamford

**R:** A Sartori, R. Paull

**R:** Volunteer

M. Vella, A. Bowden

J. Hutt, Sid Karam

**Gifts:** Volunteer

**Gifts:** B. Schipp, C. Grima

**Gifts:** H. Reid

**Altar Linen:** H. Reid

**Gifts:** K. O'Brien, M. Asbury

**Gifts:** G. & U. McKay

**Gifts:** J. Hutt

**Altar Linen:** J. Hutt