

Alleluia, alleluia! / You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy people. / Praise God who called you out of darkness and into his marvellous light. / Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

Mt 10: 37-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

*Anyone who does not accept his cross is not worthy of me. Anyone who welcomes you, welcomes me.*

Jesus instructed the Twelve as follows: 'Anyone who prefers father or mother to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who prefers son or daughter to me is not worthy of me. Anyone who does not take his cross and follow in my footsteps is not worthy of me. Anyone who finds his life will lose it; anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it.

'Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me; and those who welcome me welcome the one who sent me.'

'Anyone who welcomes a prophet because he is a prophet will have a prophet's reward; and anyone who welcomes a holy man because he is a holy man will have a holy man's reward.'

'If anyone gives so much as a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is a disciple, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

## ■ The Gospel of the Lord.

## A SERVICE OF THE SOCIETY OF ST PAUL



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# Breaking Open the Word



# THE SAVING WORD

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME / A

28 JUNE 2026

## HOW SHOULD I LIVE AND ACT?

If Jesus were to meet you (and he does constantly!) and you were to ask him, 'How should I act and live my life?', the answer would come into today's Gospel. It continues Jesus' teaching concerned with disciples (us!) on mission. As our church deepens its practice of synodality, the instructions Jesus offers are meant for all: our focus is to be on Jesus. Our relationship with him guides every other relationship and commitment. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the Twelve, the symbolic leadership group of disciples who spearhead the Jesus missionary movement, 'Anyone who prefers ....[fill in the blanks] ... is not worthy of me.' His words are not a rejection of one's relationships or family ties but the preference in all relationships is to be guided by our abiding commitment and friendship with Jesus.

The second collection of sayings in today's Gospel concerns hospitality. Those who welcome others, members of the Jesus household, and act in holiness or speak prophetically are also welcoming the presence of Jesus. This spirit of openness and receptivity continues into the last part of today's Gospel. Offering a welcoming drink to 'one of these little ones'—those regarded as social nobodies without prestige or status—and discerned, surprisingly, as disciples, as members of Jesus' community of believers, will be eternally rewarded: '...they will most certainly not lose their reward.'

Today's Gospel is not about earning rewards, though. It is about how to live, with a firm commitment to Jesus and welcoming all, especially the 'little ones' and identifying as disciples the most unlikely.

Fr Michael Trainor

## FIRST READING

2 Kings 4: 8-11, 14-16

A reading from the second book of the Kings.

*That is the holy man of God, let him remain there.*

One day as Elisha was on his way to Shunem, a woman of rank who lived there pressed him to stay and eat there. After this he always broke his journey for a meal when he passed that way. She said to her husband, 'Look, I am sure the man who is constantly passing our way must be a holy man of God. Let us build him a small room on the roof, and put him a bed in it, and a table and chair and lamp; whenever he comes to us he can rest there.'

One day when he came, he retired to the upper room and lay down. 'What can be done for her?' he asked. Gehazi (his servant) answered, 'Well, she has no son and her husband is old.' Elisha said, 'Call her.' The servant called her and she stood at the door. 'This time next year,' Elisha said 'you will hold a son in your arms.'

## ■ The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 88: 2-3, 16-19. R. v. 2

**R.** For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

1. I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord; / through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth. / Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever, / that your truth is firmly established as the heavens. **R.**

2. Happy the people who acclaim such a king, / who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face, / who find their joy every day in your name, / who make your justice the source of their bliss. **R.**

3. For it is you, O Lord, who are the glory of their strength; / it is by your favour that our might is exalted: / for our ruler is in the keeping of the Lord; / our king in the keeping of the Holy One of Israel. **R.**



## SECOND READING

Rom 6: 3-4, 8-11

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

*Having been buried with him through baptism, we shall walk in a new life.*

When we were baptised in Christ Jesus we were baptised in his death; in other words, when we were baptised we went into the tomb with him and joined him in death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the Father's glory, we too might live a new life.

But we believe that having died with Christ we shall return to life with him: Christ, as we know, having been raised from the dead will never die again. Death has no power over him any more. When he died, he died, once for all, to sin, so his life now is life with God; and in that way, you too must consider yourselves to be dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

## ■ The word of the Lord.

28 June 2026  
13th 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

**WEEKDAY** Mon: 9am (Sts Peter & Paul)  
Tues: 10.30am (Funeral Mass for Jeanette Whale)  
**MASSES** Wed: 9am (St Carlo Acutis Mission)  
Thurs: 9am Fri: 12noon (St Thomas)

**ENTRANCE ANTI-PHON:** All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!

**COMMUNION ANTI-PHON:** Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his holy name.

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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Jeanette Whale.

**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), Bridget Teo (29/7).

**DECEASED:** We pray for our loved ones now in God's care: Jean Wellwood, Julie Michell, Pat Jones.

**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, Carmel Koppman, Eileen Hudson, Julie Moran, Elizabeth Coroneos, Elizabeth William, Michael Jones, Veronica Frost, Mary Gallaher, Beryl Flood, Enid Wright, Doalis Fester, Ruby New, Michelle Asbury, Jacinta Bentley, Fr Bernie Frize, retired Diocesan Clergy.

### PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION FOR THE HOLY FATHER JUNE 27 & 28, 2026

**Support The Charitable Works of The Pope.**

This collection provides a direct way to support the Holy Father's mission to help those most in need throughout the world.

*Collectors will be at the back of the church after each Mass.*



### COMING EVENTS:

**27/28 June: Peter's Pence Collection**

**30 June:** First Reconciliation - St Patrick's Church, Tuesday - 5.30pm

**01 July:** St Carlos Acutis Relic Visit - St Patricks Church, 9am (See opposite)

**03 July:** Adoration 11am, followed by Mass at 12noon

**08 July:** Mass for the Sick

**12 July:** Parish Morning Tea after 9am Mass (S. Brown & R. Paull)

**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)**

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

**FIJIAN CHOIR:** Please welcome the Fijian Choir this Sunday evening **28 June**, at the 5pm Mass.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION:** Our first Parish Sacrament for the year will be held Tuesday evening, **30th June** at 5.30pm. All are welcome to show your support for the young of our Parish, they are our future parishioners.

**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 followed by Veneration and confession. A viewing of a documentary on Carlo Acutis will follow at 10.30am, along with morning tea. (small plates are welcome but not expected). The Relic will then be moving to South Tamworth from approx. 12.30pm.



**MASS FOR THE SICK:** Please make a note the Mass for the Sick will now be held on **Wednesday 8 July** as the St Carlos Acutis Relic visit occurs this Wednesday.

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL WINTER APPEAL:** St Patrick's will hold it's Annual Winter Appeal on the weekend of **11th & 12th July**. Please give generously, if able. All funds raised remain in our local area and help local families.

**PARISH MORNING TEA VOLUNTEERS:** Please confirm with the office that you will be able to attend to the set up and running of the morning tea on Sunday **12 July**. Your contribution of help is \*very appreciated.

**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 or email the Parish Office.

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING:** As we are currently updating our Safety Policies to ensure the safety of your child, **all children must be supervised by a parent or guardian, at all times**, inside and outside the Church and other Parish buildings including the amenities and grounds. Thank you.

### 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: 28/06/26

**Vigil:**

**9am Sun:**

**5.00pm Sun:**

**Counting Team :**

**Fri Cleaning**

R: N Pullman, P Bamford

R: A Sartori, R. Paull

R: Volunteer

M. Vella, A. Bowden

J. Hutt, Sid Karam

**Gifts:**

K. O'Brien, M. Asbury

**Gifts:**

G. & U .McKay

**Gifts:**

**Altar Linen:**

J. Hutt

### ROSTER: 05/07/26

**Vigil:**

**9am Sun:**

**5.00pm Sun:**

**Counting Team :**

**Fri Cleaning**

R: J. Woodbridge, D. Bolitho

R: S Nichols, A Sartori

R: Volunteer

G & M Thrift

M. Vella, I. Ullman

**Gifts:**

A & C Lyons

**Gifts:**

Michelle & Sally

**Gifts:**

**Altar Linen:**

M. Vella